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19 March 1984

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MBFR NEGOTIATIONS RESUME IN VIENNA 16 MAR

LD161641 Moscow TASS in English 1504 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Text] Vienna March 16 TASS -- The next round of negotiations on mutual reduction of troops and armaments in central Europe began here today after a working break.

S. Pszigidski, the head of the delegation of the Polish People's Republic, spoke at the plenary meeting on behalf of the socialist countries. He noted that the international situation remained tense as a result of the U.S. and NATO course aimed at attaining military superiority over the USSR, the Warsaw Treaty Organisation. The deployment of new American nuclear missiles in Western Europe made impossible continuation of the negotiations on the problem of limitation and reduction of nuclear armaments. The deployment is contrary also to the jointly proclaimed goal of the Vienna negotiations.

Describing the stand of the socialist states, the representative of the Polish People's Republic drew attention to the broad programme of actions, which was proposed by the socialist states and which is aimed at ensuring a fundamental improvement of the international situation, at curbing the arms race and at disarmament. The socialist countries firmly follow that principled line also at the Vienna negotiations. They persistently advocate that the negotiations be led out of the impasse that was created deliberately by the Western side, to move things to reduction of the level of military confrontation in the centre of Europe on the basis of the principle of undiminished security of either of the parties. That aim is promoted by the package of constructive proposals, which were tabled by the Warsaw Treaty member states in 1983, and which create the necessary prerequisites for attaining mutually acceptable decisions at the negotiations.

The break between the rounds in the negotiations, which was longer than usual, said the Polish representative, granted to the Western side a possibility to revise its unrealistic stand, to prepare a businesslike positive reply to the initiatives of the socialist countries. In the present-day international situation one cannot allow talks to be conducted merely for the sake of talks and [word indistinct] the NATO bloc to cover up continuation of the arms race.

A representative of Britain spoke at the meeting on behalf of the NATO countries. His speech boiled down to reiteration of the Western previous non-constructive stand.

'Test' of NATO Intentions

LD161834 Moscow World Service in English 1410 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Text] March 16th marks the beginning of another round of the Vienna talks on mutual arms and troops reductions in Central Europe. More on this from our commentator Yuriy Soltan:

This is a very important problem. Here in the heart of Europe teeming with troops, two military alliances -- NATO and the Warsaw Treaty Organization -- confront one another. This confrontation is fraught with a spark capable of causing a devastating holocaust. Everyone seems to realize the meaning of this. Nevertheless the talks on arms and troops reductions in central Europe have been going on and on for nearly 10 years now. Former schoolchildren have grown up in the meantime, but real results are not in evidence. Why?

The USSR and other Warsaw Treaty countries have proposed different versions of concrete solutions based on the principle of equality and like security. However the other side, delegations from the NATO countries, seem to spend all their energy solely on putting obstacles in the path of a settlement. They got particularly well versed in figure equilibristics. Exact and verified data on the number of servicemen in the area of the proposed reduction are lying on the negotiating table, but NATO attributes to the Warsaw Treaty Organization an additional nonexistent 150,000 troops and demands a reduction that would upset the approximate parity in its favor. In order to stop the fruitless disputes as to who has more or fewer troops and to take the talks out of their deadlock, the socialist countries back in February of last year put forward a simple and effective proposal whose essence is this: to agree on reducing NATO and the Warsaw Treaty Organization troops in central Europe to equitable collective levels making up 900,000 men on each side, irrespective of the disputed current numbers, with the land troops not exceeding 700,000 men. It goes without saying that the proposed reduction would be carried out under dual control.

Still there is no concrete answer to this important proposal. As for the declarations on NATO's striving for a dialogue and for an agreement on disarmament, a lot of them have emerged from the United States and its allies lately. Well, another round of the Vienna talks will make it possible for the NATO members to reaffirm their declarations with concrete deeds. So far we've seen only something quite different. The deployment of new American first-strike nuclear weapons has begun in Western Europe, including the territory of several countries directly involved in the Vienna talks. This circumstance can't possibly contribute to progress in Vienna.

One must also bear in mind the latest December session of the NATO Council where America's Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger announced that since the siting of American missiles in Western Europe has become an accomplished fact the NATO members must now begin to deal with other vitally important problems, such as reinforcing conventional weapons. What do the NATO countries truly want? Rearmament or disarmament? The talks in Vienna will serve as another test of their real intentions.

ROMANIA PARTICIPATING IN 'SOYUZ-84' MANEUVERS

LD161130 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1021 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Text] Moscow, March 16 (TANJUG) -- Command-staff exercises "Soyuz-84" have started in the territories of Bulgaria, Hungary, Romania and in south-west region of the USSR, the Black Sea coastal waters included. The general staffs of the four allied countries and the staff of Warsaw Treaty Joint Armed Forces participate in the exercises.

Operations in the manoeuvres "develop" on military maps and cover "movements" of troops of all services of the Army, Air Forces as well as Navies included, missile forces.

Innovation in the "Soyuz-84" exercises is participating of the Romanian Army, but on this occasion too it is characteristic of that country that in its territory, according to conceived combat operations, exclusively Armed Forces of the national Army operate.

In the territories of other countries participants in the manoeuvres combined groups of the three allied armies are included in "movements" of troops.

The conceived military operations in the Romanian territory are commanded exclusively by the general-staff of that country's Army, while actions within the framework of the manoeuvres, on the map, on the whole and in the territories of Bulgaria, Hungary and south Soviet Union and in the Black Sea, are commanded by the staff of Warsaw Treaty Joint Armed Forces and the general staffs of armies of the three allied countries.

The commander-in-chief of the Joint Armed Forces of member countries of the Warsaw Treaty, Soviet Marshal Viktor Kulikov, was in Bulgaria at the opening of the manoeuvres. He is now in Romania, on a visit to the staff of the national Army, which commands on a visit to the staff of the national Army, which commands the part of the command-staff exercise Soyuz-84 in the territory of that country.

'INTERNATIONAL SITUATION: QUESTIONS & ANSWERS'

LD162336 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1030 GMT 16 Mar 84

["International Situation -- Questions and Answers" program presented by Viktor Anikin, foreign political commentator of All-Union Radio, Yuriy Emmanuilovich Kornilov, TASS political observer, and Aleksandr Vladimirovich Zholkver, political observer of Soviet television and radio]

USSR-U.S. Peace Policies

[Excerpts] [Anikin] Looking through the mail for this program, we again noted that the majority of listeners' letters expresses natural concern in connection with the complex international situation. Here you point directly, comrades, to the source of international tension: U.S. imperialism and its openly militarist foreign policy course. At the same time your letters contain words of approval and support for the peace-loving foreign policy of our country's leadership. It was further developed recently in the channel of consistency and continuity. I am asking TASS political observer Yuriy Emmanuilovich Kornilov to talk about this. If you please:

[Kornilov] Again and again the world is harkening to the voice of Moscow, where a powerful appeal for peace, detente, ensuring reliable security of peoples is sounding out. In continuing to discuss widely and comment on the principled tenets and conclusions contained in the speeches by Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, at the CPSU Central Committee plenum and to the voters, his observations expressed during the recent meeting with Vogel, member of the SPD Presidium, eminent state and public figures of many countries and the press are stressing the firmness, continuity and constructive nature of Soviet foreign policy.

The continuity of the activity of the Soviet country on the international scene, observers note, means that the Soviet Union, true to the Leninist peace policy, is doubling and trebling its efforts in the struggle for peace, is repeatedly displaying the unswerving resolve to remove the nuclear threat, is purposefully and dynamically aiming to achieve the realization of the large-scale and constructive initiatives which were worked out at the 26th CPSU Congress and in the post-congress period. It means that our country firmly intends to continue to aim for a genuine breakthrough for the better in the dangerous development of events, that it is moving ahead on the road of equitable cooperation of states, on the bases of peaceful coexistence. And this is really so: the peace offensive of our country is not only continuing but it is growing.

It is difficult to name a single problem important for strengthening peace on which the Soviet Union and other socialist states have not made specific, realistic proposals in recent years. In making initiatives, our country proceeded and is proceeding from the political axiom that nuclear disarmament is the key of significance for peace and security of the people. We have been and remain opposed to the contest of building up nuclear arsenals. We have been and remain ardent and active adherents of banning and destroying all types of nuclear arms. We are in favor of businesslike, constructive and productive dialogue focussed on cardinal questions of war and peace.

[Anikin] If one analyzes what the international press has to say, it is not difficult to note that special interest and attention abroad have been evoked by the proposal formulated in Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko's election speech to the effect that relations between powers possessing nuclear weapons should be subject to certain norms and principles.

[Kornilov] True. And this is natural; after all, the policies of powers possessing nuclear weapons are of special significance in our time. How is the USSR presenting the code of conduct which should guide those powers, and which many foreign organs of mass information are rightly describing as a peace code? It is a matter of viewing the prevention of nuclear war as the main aim of its foreign policy, of not permitting a situation fraught with the danger of nuclear conflict, of refraining from propaganda for nuclear war in any version. Further, it is a matter of nuclear powers following the example of the USSR and undertaking the pledge not to be the first to use nuclear weapons, a matter of not using nuclear weapons in any circumstances against non-nuclear countries on whose territory there are no such weapons, of not permitting the proliferation of nuclear weapons in any form. Last but not least, it is a matter of consistently, step by step, on the basis of the principle of equal security, aiming for a reduction of nuclear weapons, right up to fully eliminating them in all their varieties.

The Soviet Union -- and this was specially stressed by Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko in his speech -- has already now placed these principles at the foundation of its policy. And this fact is yet another visible, weighty proof of the principled, consistent and continuous nature of our country's line on the international scene. The USSR is ready at any time to reach agreement with the other nuclear powers on a joint recognition of the norms of such a nature, and on giving them a mandatory character. And the foreign public and press are stressing that this would undoubtedly respond to the basic interests not only of the participant countries, but also of the peoples of the whole earth.

[Anikin] Yuriy Emmanuilovich, how is official Washington reacting to the Soviet initiatives?

[Kornilov] Its tactics can be seen through extremely clearly. The more widely the election campaign unfolds in the United States, the more active are the U.S. Administration's attempts to pose before the electors, and also before the foreign public -- primarily the West European public which is extremely alarmed at the aggressiveness of Reagan's team -- the attempts to pose as a universal peacemaker, which, if one believes the statements of some Washington figures, is only concerned to consolidate peace and to halt material preparations for war.

However, after all, in our time people judge the policy of any state and government not by statements and declarations but by specific deeds. So one asks, what is hidden behind the so-called warming of tone which now supposedly is characteristic of Washington? What is hidden behind the peacemaking assertions pouring out of the U.S. capital? Maybe the United States has really renounced its attempts to gain the unattainable: to break the military-strategic parity which has come about in Europe and the world and which is the backbone both of European and of international security and stability? No, nothing of the kind. The rampage of militarism in the United States is continuing; allocations for military purposes are reaching unprecedented levels in the country's history.

[Anikin] The international public has actively welcomed the recent proposals of the Warsaw Pact member-states concerning talks on the question of non-increase and reduction of military spending. But what is the U.S. response?

[Kornilov] In Washington they are responding to this peace-loving initiative also in their own militarist manner. While frightening the man-in-the-street with the non-existent Soviet threat, they are pushing through Congress a record budget \$313 billion for the 1985 fiscal year. And Reagan, speaking on 13 March to the members of one of the Zionist centers of the United States, openly stated that everything that has been already done by the administration in building up the nuclear potential is only, so it goes, the beginning. American first-strike nuclear weapons are continuing to be deployed at accelerated rates on the territory of a number of West European states.

And West Europe, which is being transformed into a hostage of a policy that is alien to it and dangerous, is already being openly described in Washington as nothing other than a TMA, that is, a potential theater of military action. The United States is stubbornly refusing to follow the example of the USSR to take the pledge not to be the first to use nuclear weapons. There is also no response from Washington to the Soviet proposal on a freeze of nuclear weapons, on preventing the arms race in space, our proposals in Stockholm to create an atmosphere of confidence, in Vienna on mutual reduction of armed forces and weapons in central Europe, although it is more than evident that all these initiatives offer real possibilities to achieve mutually acceptable accords.

And here I have in front of me a new report from Oslo, where a symposium of the North Atlantic bloc has just been held on the theme of the role of conventional and nuclear weapons in NATO's military strategy. Speaking there, U.S. General Rogers, NATO supreme allied commander in Europe, advocated maintaining NATO's doctrine providing for this aggressive bloc to use nuclear weapons first. Intimidating the symposium participants with the mythical Soviet threat, he advocated building up not only nuclear, but also so-called conventional weapons, demanding from the allies even more contributions to the NATO militarist mechanism.

And another report, this time from Washington. Hart the correspondent of the American NBC television company at the Pentagon, openly states: At present U.S. official doctrine is based on a concept permitting the possibility of waging a nuclear war whose progress can be controlled and which can be won. He notes that at the American military base in South Dakota where nuclear weapons are kept some sort of rehearsal of the start of World War III is already being played. So this is how things are: at a time when they are practicing launching noisy propaganda fireworks in the White House on the theme of the U.S. striving for peace and thirst for dialogue, in the Pentagon they are trying out what targets the American missiles should be aimed at, clearly forgetting in this that our country has sufficient means with whose aid, if necessary, the hotheads of the bellicose adventurists can be cooled.

In the light of these facts, -- and it is not hard to multiply them -- is it necessary to prove what a gulf there is dividing the pharisaical peacemaking statements of Washington and its real policy, at whose basis is still the unreadiness to stem the avalanche of nuclear weapons, but the reliance on strength, on diktat, on nuclear blackmail?

The Soviet Union, as a great socialist state, fully recognizes its responsibility to the peoples for the preservation and strengthening of peace. Today, as yesterday, the USSR is open to peaceful, mutually advantageous cooperation with the states of all continents, including the United States. Our country did not and does not consider that East and West are doomed to total confrontation. It is in favor of a peaceful solution of all controversial international problems by means of serious, equitable, constructive negotiations. The Soviet Union is still ready, on a mutually acceptable basis, to solve the problem both of strategic and of European nuclear weapons. It is only necessary for the United States to remove those obstacles which it created by the deployment of its new missiles in Europe. In a word, it is up to Washington.

[Anikin] Thank you, Yuriy Emmanuilovich.

U.S. Indian Ocean 'Hegemonism'

Listeners Vladimir and Nikolay Ivanovich Medvedyev ask why the United States so vigorously opposes the holding of an international conference about the Indian Ocean, which would be called upon to promote the turning of this basin into a zone of peace, cooperation and good-neighborliness. It should be stated directly that such a prospect does not accord with the global military-political calculations of U.S. imperialism. They have declared the Indian Ocean and also the Near East and Southeast Asia as the new, and now third, strategic zone of military confrontation with the USSR. I would remind you that they have named West Europe and the Far East as the first two such zones.

The powers-that-be in the United States are making open attempts to turn the Indian Ocean into an arena of direct military confrontation between imperialism and world socialism and the national liberation movement. Behind these aspirations stand the plans of the Washington strategists to achieve military-political domination over the region of the Indian Ocean with its vast natural wealth.

All of this had led to the Indian Ocean's becoming a zone of military tension. The source of this tension is the U.S. militaristic expansion, which has become especially dangerous under the Reagan administration, which is increasingly escalating the presence there of U.S. military might. The strategic coverage of the Indian Ocean by the U.S. naval and air forces is proceeding particularly rapidly. For quite a few years now one or two strike aircraft-carriers with escort vessels, two missile cruisers, two or three multipurpose nuclear submarines and also landing vessels with marines on board and floating bases with heavy armaments have been stationed there on a permanent basis. And these U.S. aircraft-carriers and submarines have nuclear munitions on board. U.S. B-52 strategic bombers carrying mass annihilation weapons patrol the airspace over the Indian Ocean.

Plans are being elaborated for a new stage in the U.S. military expansion in the zone of this international basin. These plans envisage, in particular, the deployment of Pershing II medium-range missiles in certain littoral countries and the deployment of sea-based and air-based long-range cruise missiles on vessels and aircraft. An integral part of these plans is the further expansion of the network of U.S. military objects in this region even though it must be stressed that the Pentagon already has at its disposal approximately 30 military bases located around the perimeter of the Indian Ocean; and it is intended to increase the number of servicemen stationed at them to a quarter of a million in the near future. A considerable proportion of these consists of contingents of the so-called Rapid Deployment Forces. The U.S. strategic base on the island of Diego Garcia is the center of this vast militaristic complex. It is reported that there are both nuclear and chemical weapons there.

But, as can be seen, the expansionist appetites of the Washington militarists are growing even more. The U.S. brasshats now intend to obtain new bases in certain countries of this region. The ones they have in mind are Trincomalee on the island of Sri Lanka, Gwadar in Pakistan, Chittagong in Bangladesh and also bases on the Comoro and Maldives Islands. Washington's activities show that it has simply been seized by the mania of hegemonism. And this can be seen particularly clearly by the behavior of the Reagan administration in the Indian Ocean zone.

The U.S. strategists do not conceal the fact that they regard the U.S. military penetration in this region from the viewpoint of the implementation of their doctrine of first nuclear strike. All genuine supporters of strengthening peace in this region consider it essential to redouble efforts to ensure that the international conference on the Indian Ocean takes place without fail in the first half of next year.

UN Role; U.S. 'Blackmail'

[Anikin] Our regular listeners Bezverkhov from Ust-Dzhegut, Stavropol Kray, Perekhodka from the town of Nakhodka, Maritime Kray, and also Comrade Mansurov from Ulan-Ude and Kislenko from Leningrad ask about the basic principles of the activity of the United Nations organization, about constant U.S. violations of the UN Charter. This probably happens because, our listener writes, Washington does not always meet with the proper rebuff from the majority of UN members.

In replying to your questions, esteemed comrades, I would like first of all to remind you of the results of the recent 38th session of the UN General Assembly.

The UN General Assembly session reflected the effectiveness of the USSR's peace-loving foreign policy, its attractiveness and consonance with the moods of the public of the nonaligned countries which now comprise the basic mass of the UN members and also of those capitalist states whose governments are inclined toward a realistic understanding of the current international situation.

At the same time the session showed the extreme unpopularity of the hegemonist and adventurist course of the United States, which is the source of the present considerable tension in the world and the reason for the existing acute conflicts in various regions of the globe including the armed conflicts. Despite the fierce opposition of the diplomats of the United States and its allies, the session adopted much important resolutions which were submitted on the initiative of the USSR as condemnation of nuclear war, prevention of the arms race in space, freezing nuclear weapons, and so forth. The session's decisions showed the condemnation of the policy of aggression and arbitrariness including the criminal U.S. attack on Grenada, the U.S.-Israeli armed interference in Lebanon. The session in essence condemned the gulf between the words in favor of peace which the Washington administration does not spare at present and its ignoble deeds.

Esteemed comrades, this is a reply to the part of your question about whether the aggressive U.S. policy receives a proper rebuff from the majority of UN members. Undoubtedly it does.

At present, the United Nations, mainly thanks to the efforts of the USSR and the other socialist countries, has come a lot closer to fulfilling its purpose as stated in its charter: to rid the coming generations of the disasters of war, to show patience and to live together in peace with each other as good neighbors.

On 24 October next year the 40th anniversary of the existence of this most representative international organization will be marked. And it must be said that as the United Nations increasingly becomes an important instrument of peace, it arouses increasing irritation in official Washington and its closest allies. Our listeners apparently know about the open U.S. attacks on UNESCO, which Washington intends to leave on 1 January, 1985. The United States also openly blackmails the United Nations Organization itself. Mrs Kirkpatrick, the U.S. permanent representative at the United Nations, calls on congressmen to apportion the size of U.S. contributions to the United Nations in accordance with the, as she put it, bad or good conduct of the member countries of the international community, or, in other words, according to whether they support the United States on various questions in that organization or not. And the occupant of the White House himself has already on several occasions expressed his frankly negative attitude toward the United Nations or, to be more precise, to actions by it which are aimed at strengthening international peace and security.

However, it is perfectly clear that no one can order the United Nations about. No one, not even the richest capitalist power is permitted to impose its will on the majority of members of this most prestigious international organization. And thus there can be no doubt that all the attempts by Washington to blackmail the United Nations are doomed to failure.

WEEKLY 'INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS ROUNDTABLE'

LD181812 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1230 GMT 18 Mar 84

["International Observers Roundtable" program, with Rudolf Georgiyevich Kolchanov, deputy editor-in-chief of TRUD; Aleksandr Aleksandrovich Lebedev, department chief at MEZHDUNARODNAYA ZHIZN and Aleksandr Vladimirovich Zholkver, political observer of Central Television and All-Union Radio]

[Text] [Zholkver] Hello, comrades! The speech by Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko to voters in Moscow has remained the focus of world public attention this week.

Furthermore, particular attention is given to Comrade Chernenko's proposals for the establishment of specific norms in relations between the nuclear powers. These powers, having at their disposal a particularly powerful weapon, bear the main responsibility toward both the present and future generations.

Nuclear, CW Responsibilities

Comrade Chernenko, as has been reported, also dwelled on the problems of halting the nuclear arms race during his meeting with Vogel, the leader of the FRG Social Democrats. I was at Vogel's press conference, and I should point out that one could judge the exceptionally great interest in the problem in question by the large number of questions from journalists on various aspects of this codex -- as they christened it -- of conduct for the nuclear powers.

[Kolchanov] In his speech at his meeting with voters, Comrade Chernenko precisely defined the norms of mutual relations between the nuclear powers. These, properly speaking, are six principles embracing a very important and most fundamental circle of relations. The nuclear powers should regard the prevention of nuclear war as the chief aim of their foreign policy. A situation fraught with the threat of nuclear conflict should not be tolerated; but in the event of such a danger, urgent consultations should be conducted to prevent a nuclear conflagration. It is essential to renounce the propaganda of nuclear war in any form, either global or limited. The obligation must be accepted not to be the first to use nuclear weapons; and, under no circumstances, to use nuclear weapons against non-nuclear countries in which there are no such weapons. The status of existing nuclear-free zones must be respected; and the formation of new ones should be encouraged in various areas.

In accordance with the proposed norms, the spread of nuclear weapons in any form should not be permitted, nor should these weapons or control over them be handed over to anyone else. They should not be deployed in countries that do not have them; nor should the nuclear arms race be transferred to new spheres, including space. The nuclear countries should seek to curtail nuclear weapons, step by step and on the basis of the principle of equal security, to the point of totally eliminating them.

[Zholkver] One should say, though, that the Soviet Union is making proposals relating to the limitation not only of nuclear weapons, but also of other, no less dangerous types of weapons.

[Lebedev] Yes, that is quite right. Also on this occasion, as in the past, our country made a series of proposals aimed at preventing and stopping all aspects of the arms race. Konstantin Ustinovich's speech contains specific proposals on what measures should be taken to ban immediately the manufacture and development of chemical weapons and to destroy stocks of them. This is not the first time, incidentally, that we have made this proposal. Each time -- as you have already said, Rudolf Georgiyevich -- the West rejects many proposals concerning nuclear weapons. It is the same with chemical weapons. The Warsaw Pact countries recently made specific proposals on freeing Europe from chemical weapons. Well, the reaction in the West as a whole was positive, but at once voices rang out: That is Europe; but what about proposals to ban chemical weapons completely?

This proposal was indeed made. New proposals were made by us for a system of international control over the destruction of stockpiles of chemical weapons. We know that as soon as the West needs to get rid of our latest disarmament proposal, whatever it may be, the problem of control is immediately raised. This is all impossible, they say, because there are no provisions for control measures. We have proposed quite specific ideas and specific considerations with regard to chemical weapons, which will undoubtedly hasten an agreement.

There is also military spending -- a global aspect of the arms race that is now reaching colossal proportions. Remember that the U.S. Administration has just submitted to Congress a 1985 budget proposal of over \$313 billion.

World Views on Arms Freeze

[Zholkver] That is an increase of 14 percent.

[Lebedev] It is even more than that. It is clear, of course, that this is a very heavy burden. Incidentally, the U.S. press acknowledges that this is a very heavy burden even for an America that boasts of its wealth. So, the Warsaw Pact countries have once again made a proposal. This derives from our previous initiatives aimed at reducing military spending as an important lever in halting and curbing the arms race and as a means toward real disarmament. These proposals take into account and further develop our previous ideas. We proposed various ways of cutting military spending.

First and foremost, there is the acceptance of the mutual obligation not to be the first to use nuclear weapons. Well, as you know, the Soviet Union has already unilaterally assumed such an obligation. The West, it is true, says to us yes; but then they say there is the possibility of a conventional war. The Soviet Union and the other socialist countries made a new proposal: to conclude an agreement providing for the total renunciation of use of military force in any manifestation, either nuclear or conventional. What do we see from the West?

The NATO countries have made several proposals, but these essentially concerned only narrow and, I would say, military-technological issues that do not remove the main reasons for this tension in international relations. At the same time, it was hard to shake the impression that these proposals were aimed at gaining the opportunity to establish in detail all aspects of the structure of the armed forces of the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries. One wonders why such information is necessary in the present conditions, when U.S. missiles are deployed in Western Europe.

[Kolchanov] In order better to select targets, evidently.

[Zholkver] That sort of statement is being made quite a lot in the West. I should point out that such evaluations of, on the one hand, the specific and constructive position adopted by the Soviet Union and, on the other, of the very ambiguous position of the NATO countries, are being made, not only by major statesmen, but also by representatives of the public. Thus, in parallel with the this big conference in Stockholm, a conference -- no small conference by the way -- was also held of representatives of the public and of various political parties from 37 countries from all over the world. These public representatives addressed a special appeal to the participants in the Stockholm conference, calling upon them to make a contribution toward removing the threat of war in Europe, underlining that any nuclear in Europe would immediately encompass the entire world. Now this is interesting. What are the representatives of the public demanding? They are demanding the immediate freezing of nuclear arsenals; renunciation of the first use of nuclear weapons; a total ban on nuclear weapons testing; an agreement on mutual renunciation of the use of force; formation of nuclear-free zones; and renunciation of propaganda in support of the acceptability of nuclear war. Now this is virtually as you, Rudolf Georgiyevich, quoted -- our proposals for the codex of conduct in relations between nuclear powers.

[Kolchanov] It takes into account, as I said, the demands of world public opinion.

[Zholkver] Yes, it is consonant with these wishes and demands of the peoples; and this is characteristic of the policies of the socialist countries. I came across an interesting statistic. A NEW YORK TIMES correspondent at the UN headquarters has analyzed the voting in the General Assembly, noting that last year the overwhelming majority of UN members voted five times more often against the United States than with it.

[Kolchanov] Eighty percent of the members voted for our peaceful proposals. That is the true position.

[Lebedev] Yes, Rodolf Georgiyevich, with regard to what you are saying, with regard to confidence and an atmosphere of confidence, we refer, with justification of course, to the hypocrisy of the U.S. position.

U.S. Election Campaign

[Zholkver] This contrast between words and actions is particularly typical of Washington of course; but one has to say -- not as justification, but as an explanation -- that this is related to a considerable degree to the election campaign that is now unfolding in connection with the November presidential election.

Much is now being said and written about the Hart phenomenon, the phenomenon of this young, 47-year-old senator, who is now collecting a significant number of votes in the preliminary polls, and is ahead of his rival Mondale, the other Democratic Party contender, in a number of fields. How does the U.S. press explain this Hart phenomenon? It believes that it all boils down to his so-called new ideas, which take into account the mood of Americans. What sort of mood is it? I have in front of me the results of one of the latest opinion polls published in NEWSWEEK. The question was: What, according to you, are the most important issues in the election campaign? Sixty-seven percent replied, unemployment; 60 percent said, relations with the Soviet Union; and 58 percent said, U.S. nuclear weapons policy. It is this mood of the American public -- a considerable part of it, at least, particularly young people -- that Hart is evidently taking into account in making proposals on freezing nuclear weapons, and cutting certain military programs. But at the same time one cannot fail to note that Hart's platform -- as it noted by THE NEW YORK TIMES -- is an eclectic set of ideas. An American professor, from Harvard, has labelled his program a kind of ideological salad.

But it seems to me that what matters is not just these arguments. An increasing number of U.S. commentators are stressing that the major feature of this election campaign is the question of who has the most money. It is being noted that Mondale has collected \$15 million for his campaign, and Hart just 20 percent of this sum. So, it is premature to count Mondale out, as they say.

It is thought that Reagan's campaign fund already has \$100 million, and so-called donations are still coming in. It is not difficult to work out who is making these donations. There was a Gallup poll in THE WALL STREET JOURNAL. The poll findings show that nine out of ten U.S. corporation managers said they favored Reagan for president. So that is the source of this big money. It is not surprising when you consider that in return even more considerable sums are going to these same U.S. corporations, which are engaged above all in arms production.

[Kolchanov] We know full well how far election promises -- even the most generous and peaceloving -- are from what U.S. presidents go on to do.

U.S. Military Policy Abroad

[Zholkver] I would say not just what they go on to do, but what is being done now.

Along with these accentuated peaceloving campaign statements in the United States itself, Reagan wrote a major article for TIME devoted to the 35th anniversary of NATO. The whole article amounted to a proclamation of the continuation of the policy of force and the arms buildup by the United States and its NATO allies. Weinberger spoke on a major television program broadcast to Western Europe on the proposition that it is necessary to continue the deployment of U.S. missiles. In northern Norway, some of the biggest military exercises in the whole 35-year history of NATO are currently underway.

[Kolchanov] In June cruise missiles are to be deployed on warships of the Pacific fleet.

[Lebedev] Let us not forget, by the way, what is taking place in Central America. The latest U.S. naval squadron is approaching the shores of Honduras and El Salvador. Joint maneuvers are again being planned in Honduras in the immediate vicinity of the Salvadoran border. Why and to what end? Elections are to be held on 25 March in El Salvador, and the Americans can see that the military junta is nearing collapse. The second object of all these intimidating measures is, of course, Nicaragua.

[Zholkver] For instance, there was a report on U.S. television about the activity of the American Embassy in Honduras. In terms of staff, it is the second biggest in the world, and Honduras is not a great power. But the correspondent, (Francis) of NBC, declared candidly that diplomats, military officials and intelligence men are working out a policy here of holding communism in check in Central America. In violation of a congressional ban, in his own words, they are planning and extending a military presence in Honduras on a scale that can only be compared with Vietnam. There is another aspect. We have mentioned the lessons of Vietnam. This is more than topical at the moment. Friday, 16 March, was the anniversary of My Lai, the bloody crime of the Americans who turned a Vietnamese village into a second Khatyn, a second Oradour, destroying it along with the whole population. But just as the Americans failed to achieve military victory in Vietnam, they have also now failed to do so in Lebanon.

[Kolchanov] They have, as a result, ended up the losers. They have undoubtedly been the losers, because the Israeli-Lebanese pact, or the Israeli-Lebanese agreement to be more precise, which was foisted on Lebanon by the Americans, has been abrogated. The conference on national reconciliation that has started in Lausanne is also a strong slap in the face for the United States.

[Zholkver] Yes, and Israel -- Israeli intelligence, strictly speaking -- is continuing to foment intercommunal, religious strife. U.S. observers are currently attempting to analyze this. In particular, there has been a major article in the BOSTON GLOBE. They are attempting, as they put it, to find an exhaustive explanation for the catastrophic collapse of U.S. policy in the Near East. This is what they are saying: What happened was the same combination of political miscalculation and manipulation of military force that played an important role 2 decades ago in Vietnam; the same reliance on military force, the same imperial ambitions, and the same result -- the collapse of the policy of force.

Well, you know that the way the Near East problem really can be tackled on a just basis was discussed during Comrade Aliyev's recent visit to Damascus. It was also reflected in the Soviet-Syrian communique, which, on the one hand, decisively condemns U.S.-Israeli aggression and demands the full and unconditional withdrawal of both U.S. and Israeli troops from Lebanon; and, at the same time, expresses full support for the position of Syria, which is opposing the intrigues of imperialism and Zionism. Syria spoke highly of the Soviet Union's position and expressed profound gratitude for its unvarying support for the struggle of the Arab peoples for their legitimate rights.

[Kolchanov] The Soviet Union's position on the problems of the Near East is crystal clear. It calls for the withdrawal of Israeli troops from the occupied Arab lands, and the restoration of the legitimate national rights of the Arab people of Palestine, including their right to self-determination and the creation of an independent state.

EEC, CEMA Benefits Contrasted

[Zholkver] I would like now to draw the attention of our listeners and the participants in the discussion to some economic problems. This is especially topical, because on Monday and Tuesday there will be a meeting of leaders of Common Market countries in Brussels. What is the present situation in the Common Market on the eve of this meeting? Well, all the reports in West European press are sufficiently pessimistic. The Common Market is in a blind alley; meeting of EEC leaders are facing failure. The West German paper WESTFAELISCH RUNDSCHAU, for example, says that Western Europe is like a patient in intensive care being resuscitated. What are the causes of this?

[Lebedev] Quite a lot is being written and said about the contradictions and skirmishes in Common Market institutions. One can cite specific examples and causes in both aspects of the problem -- financial and agricultural policy. But I would like to put the question on a somewhat higher plane. The problem is not that economic integration as such is a bad thing, or that it is not possible. Why should it be so? CEMA is a brilliant example. Socialist countries are actively implementing economic integration. The question is: in whose interests is this integration being implemented? It is not accidental that many West European communist parties point out that integration under the Common Market is in the interests of the monopolies. Thus, one group of contradictions is classic -- between labor and capital -- because the majority of integrated measures -- agricultural policy is a graphical example -- leads to the ruin and elimination of farmers with small and medium-size holdings. In the case of industrial production, the victims are the weak, small and medium-size firms. Monopolies are the winners; multi-national corporations are the winners.

[Zholkver] Yes, but ultimately it is the working man who suffers.

[Lebedev] Yes.

[Zholkver] Not only farmers are suffering. British miners are suffering because British mines are closing down. Also suffering are French and West German steel workers who are laid off. These heated class battles are not accidental. The British miners are picketing, risking their jobs, and unfortunately sometimes even their lives. In the recent skirmishes, when a large police arsenal was used, one British worker was killed. In his latest statement, the British home secretary threatened pickets with police actions, saying: Police will get all my support if the miners do not obey the law. Law -- this capitalist legislation -- is in the interests of big capital, which is making profits. It is clear that these conflicts are coming from within this capitalist economic integration.

At the same time, Aleksandr Aleksandrovich, you are quite right that economic integration is not only possible but is necessary. Its benefits and effectiveness can be seen, as you have said, in the example of CEMA. Last week was the Leipzig fair. During my work in the GDR, I have often been at this big international fair. This year about 100 states participated. There were 9,000 exhibitors. It was interesting that in many pavillions of the socialist countries one could see a little notice, a symbolic picture of CEMA, the 35th anniversary of CEMA. This year a large exhibition of the Interatomenergo, the international organization of CEMA countries for the development of atomic power industry, was also held. One thing was interesting. In the Soviet pavillion there were 8,000 exhibits. Next to 600 of them were little notices saying that those exhibits are the result of cooperation with fraternal socialist countries. There were many of these notices by models of vessels. It is well known that the GDR delivers a great number of vessels to the Soviet Union: last year 53 fishing and passenger vessels were built for us.

This year, 56 vessels are to be built in the GDR. At the same time, the Soviet Union has given significant assistance to the development of shipbuilding, which practically did not exist in the GDR. It continues to supply machinery for vessels and navigation equipment. Here the benefits of integration are fully demonstrated.

[Lebedev] Undoubtedly, and the process of the socialist economic integration is not just smooth sailing. A mass of large problems have to be solved, because, for the first time there are not any past examples from which to learn. But these problems are being solved in a fraternal, friendly atmosphere. Incidentally the results, as we can see, are more than convincing. In the 35 years of its existence, CEMA members have constantly been ahead of the Common Market in rate of development.

[Kolchanov] Yes, socialist integration is advantageous generally and for each individual participant. We cannot avoid figures, of course. About 10 percent of the world's population lives in CEMA countries, but its share of world industrial production is 33 percent. In comparison, 34 years ago this share was only 18 percent. Rapid development of economic integration, which is based on true equality, on true mutual assistance, on firm friendship, is taking place.

I think, Aleksandr Vladimirovich, that it is necessary to say a few words about the important, fundamental tasks CEMA faces at present. I simply want to remind our listeners that in order to develop and supplement the comprehensive program of socialist economic integration adopted in 1971, the countries of the community are implementing jointly a number of new plans. Of special importance are five long-term target programs aimed at meeting, by common efforts, the fast growing needs of the countries. Here is a list of these needs: energy, fuels, basic types of raw materials, food and consumer goods, a higher level of machine building, accelerated development of transportation. Two of these five target programs are in the sphere of agriculture and food processing and consumer goods and are aimed directly at satisfying the growing demands of the population of the socialist countries.

[Zholkver] All these problems are naturally linked with the most important problem: the strengthening and preservation of peace on earth. In his speech at the February Plenum of the Central Committee, Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko stressed that the success of the preservation and strengthening of peace depends to a considerable extent on the size of the influence of socialist countries in the world arena and on how active, purposeful and united their actions are. We will end our discussion here today. Thank you, comrades, for taking part; and thank you, comrade listeners, for listening.

USSR ENVOY GRINEVSKIY SUMS UP FIRST CDE SESSION

LD161518 Moscow TASS in English 1417 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Text] Stockholm March 16 TASS -- TASS correspondent Nikolay Vukolov reports:

The first session of the Stockholm Conference on Confidence and Security Building Measures and Disarmament in Europe has closed here today.

Summing up the results of the two-month-old round of talks, Oleg Grinevskiy, ambassador at large, who heads the Soviet delegation, stressed that the pivotal issue in the discussions at the conference was and remains along what lines the Stockholm forum will proceed, whether it will proceed along the lines of taking large-scale measures capable of fundamentally improving the situation in Europe or it will turn into endless debates on routine issues of minor importance. This question is becoming particularly acute in the present-day situation, when the actions of the United States and its NATO allies have resulted in a sharpening of the situation and a serious undermining of trust.

The international tensions, the Soviet representative said, make it urgently necessary to step up drastically efforts for peace and international cooperation. New prospects in this respect are opened by the package of the norms of relations between states having nuclear weapons, which was put forward by General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Konstantin Chernenko. The Soviet Union expresses readiness to reach agreement any time on a joint recognition of norms of this kind and on making them mandatory.

The socialist countries, Oleg Grinevskiy continued, firmly adhere to the line of businesslike constructive talks in Stockholm. They place in the centre of the conference major issues on which it really depends whether a turn will be made towards restoring and building up confidence, strengthening European security.

They are, above all, such large-scale measures as the commitment by the countries participating in the conference, which have nuclear weapons, never to be the first to use them and conclude a treaty on non-use of military force. If agreement were reached on these initiatives, this would lay a solid foundation for confidence in Europe and outside it, create a favourable political climate for resolving other problems, especially in the field of limitation and reduction of weapons. The question of the commitment never to be the first to use nuclear weapons, the Soviet representative pointed out, is a particularly urgent one as regards Europe and precisely at the present time as a result of the deployment of American first-strike missiles, which has been commenced in some NATO countries. It is important that the USA, Britain and France should follow the Soviet Union's example and commit themselves never to be the first to use nuclear weapons.

The discussion at the conference, he continued, have shown that the proposal of the socialist countries as regards concluding a treaty on non-use of military force meets with growing interest. Its implementation brooks no delay. Those, who try to put off a concrete discussion of the idea of the treaty, attach preliminary strings to such a discussion or demand that almost all the disputable international issues be first settled, take upon themselves serious responsibility.

Along with large-scale confidence-building measures the Soviet Union also declares for reaching agreement in Stockholm on confidence-building measures in the military field as a follow-up to the respective provisions of the Helsinki Final Act, but there should be measures more substantive in their character and wider in scope.

An opposite approach to examining the problem of confidence and security building is proposed by the NATO member-countries. The proposals put forward by them contain clearly unacceptable provisions and are clearly not designed for reaching agreement.

They totally disregard key issues relating to strengthening peace and security in Europe, narrow the potentialities of the conference and reduce things to minor military-technical issues. The main concept in the NATO proposals is that of "transparency," which is aimed at disclosing the structure and activities of the armed forces of the European states.

In conclusion Oleg Grinevskiy stressed that even under the present-day complicated conditions the states with different social systems have possibilities for reach mutually acceptable agreements. This is seen from the successful completion of the Madrid meeting. The very convocation of the Stockholm conference and discussions held at it demonstrate that the ideas of detente are alive in Europe. Therefore, the conference has prospects, if all states strive for constructive talks on a just and objective basis.

The Stockholm conference is scheduled to resume its work on May 8.

U.S. ACTIVITY 'INCREASING TENSION' IN SOUTH ASIA

PM161532 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Mar 84 First Edition p 5

[Veniamin Shurygin article under the rubric: "Commentator's Column": "Search for Bridgeheads"]

[Text] Lieutenant General J. Lee, commander of U.S. ground forces in the western part of the Pacific Ocean, recently visited Bangladesh. He held talks with Chief Martial Law Administrator H.M. Ershad, as well as with leaders of all branches of the Bangladesh Armed Forces. At approximately the same time a conference of U.S. ambassadors accredited to South Asian countries was held in Dhaka. They were addressed by H. Schaffer, State Department representative in charge of U.S. policy in that region.

The stepping up of U.S. diplomatic activity in South Asia is no accident, nor is it any accident that Bangladesh has recently become an important target for it. The world press has reported that during General Ershad's visit to the United States in the second half of last year talks were held there on the use by the Pentagon of the Bangladesh port of Chittagong and its transformation into a U.S. stronghold in the Bay of Bengal.

Sri Lanka has also become, along with Bangladesh, the object of behind-the-scenes U.S. diplomatic intrigue. The Indian press writes that the ambassador's conference discussed the question of creating in the region conditions "favoring the United States' acquisition of a military base in the Sri Lankan port of Trincomalee."

Pakistan is being increasingly turned into an instrument for U.S. imperialist policy in Asia. The TIMES OF INDIA'S Washington correspondent writes that the "United States intends to station a contingent of American military personnel on Pakistani territory on a permanent basis "to secure the most effective use of the latest types of American armaments." [quotemarks as published]

The United States is thus seeking by means of various kinds of strongholds in Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, and Pakistan to establish a "bridge" between the Pacific Ocean Command and the so-called Central Command and to obtain new opportunities for exerting pressure on India, which "refuses to submit" to U.S. diktat.

It should, however, be noted that Washington's perfidious plans for the South Asia subcontinent are encountering growing obstacles. The chief of these are the mass demonstrations in Pakistan and Bangladesh. Their participants, in addition to demanding the democratization of social life and improvement in the economic situation, firmly reject Washington's demands and seek to bring about the implementation of a foreign policy course which corresponds to those countries' interests.

The stepping up of U.S. military-political activity in the countries of South Asia is inevitably leading to increasing tension in the Indian Ocean and cannot fail to cause alarm to the littoral states and all those who hold dear the peace and the security of the peoples in Asia and throughout the world.

KISSINGER PLAN FOR RESTRUCTURING NATO APPRAISED

LD190511 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Text] Right after George Shultz's reputation was badly hurt by the defeat of United States diplomacy and the Marines in Lebanon there were rumors that Henry Kissinger could again become secretary of state.

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But there were two reservations: if Reagan would be reelected and, naturally, if he would be willing to give the job to a man he had kept at a distance for so long. These comments were written by news analyst Stanislav Kondrashov, who went on to say:

Kissinger left his post as secretary of state over 7 years ago but he didn't drop out of sight. He possesses qualities that are equally important to a politician and to an actor: the ability to choose the right time and place for a speech to attract attention. This quality was once again evident in the recent publication by TIME of a lengthy article by Kissinger about his proposal for restructuring NATO. The article is interesting because of his admissions and also because of its general spirit. Officially NATO is talking about its unprecedented unity that has enabled it, despite the anti-war movement, to begin deploying American nuclear missiles in Western Europe. But underneath this veneer of well-being, Kissinger sees some alarming facts. He noted that in Western Europe today even conservatives are fearful that the United States is so warlike and that United States strategy has set such a low nuclear threshold.

Kissinger also talks about the criticism of the dangerous instability of United States foreign policy. The former secretary of state predicts divisions within the NATO leadership, a trend toward pacificism and neutrality among West Europeans and further demoralization. So what does Kissinger propose? In the first place he's appealing to Western Europe to work on strengthening its conventional ground defense. This, in his opinion, would increase the role and self-reliance of the West Europeans and quiet their fears, fears that are created by NATO strategy developed by the United States and involving the use of nuclear weapons first, and at an early stage, in Europe. Now that work has begun on deploying the new American missiles its become clearer that ever before that West European countries are serving as American hostages. Despite Kissinger's pretenses at wise statesmanship, he's actually suggesting that an alternative be found where it has been sought long and hard: in the further militarization of Western Europe; that is, more soldiers and more weapons, as well as money for both.

Now, let's examine what's been left out of Kissinger's article. It doesn't contain any prospects for peace. He doesn't suggest a different, more serious and honest attitude to East-West talks, nor efforts to seek understanding and trust in the common interests of peace and security. Nor a demonstration of at least minimum good faith and desire for cooperation. His prescription for NATO is the same fierce confrontation that we have already seen more than once and that can promise no cure. It wouldn't be bad to recall the recent past. In 1979 Kissinger's talk about holes in the nuclear umbrella over Western Europe helped push through NATO's so-called dual decision. Four years later when the dual decision has brought American Pershings and Tomahawks to Western Europe, he's once again urging a round of the arms race, this time the race of conventional weapons.

Meanwhile, the American historian Arthur Schlesinger, a former colleague of Kissinger in the academic world, on a European tour noted that, as trust in the judgments of the United States erodes, the impression is created more strongly than ever that West Europeans are seeking their own alternative. Where will these quests lead to? To the former militarist course of non-nuclear defense from an enemy that has no intentions of attacking? Or to political realism that relies on the ability to soberly evaluate the experience of peaceful co-existence, difficult but peaceful?

U.S. VIOLATION OF TEST BAN THRESHOLD ALLEGED

PM160937 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 13 Mar 84 Second Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Consequences of the Incident"]

[Text] San Francisco, 12 Mar -- A worker, C. (Mish), has died in a hospital in Las Vegas, Nevada. According to the medical conclusion his death was caused by major damage to internal organs and fractures received as a result of an incident at the Rainier Mesa test ranges in that state during tests of a nuclear device.

As reported, after the underground explosion the surface collapsed to a depth of almost 10 meters. It was then that 15 men situated over the epicenter of the explosion were wounded. In commenting on the incident, the press has noted significant discrepancies between the facts and the authorities public statements on the causes. Thus T. (Clark), a Department of Energy spokesman, stated at a press conference that the collapse occurred "accidentally." However, as THE LOS ANGELES TIMES wrote, shortly before the test geologists carefully studied the granite structures in the region of the test range and discovered no anomalies. In this connection the specialists pointed to the possibility of the detonation at Rainier Mesa of a nuclear device whose power was significantly higher than had been announced. In particular, the National Earthquake Information Service at Golden, Colorado, reported that seismic tremors after the test reached 4.5 on the Richter scale. And this, as W. Raywood, a spokesman for the University of Nevada, noted, is an indication that the strength of the explosion was several times higher than announced.

These and certain facts call into serious doubt U.S. observance of the 1974 treaty on the limitation of underground nuclear weapon tests and the 1976 treaty on underground nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes, which the United States has thus far not ratified.

Great disbelief was also provoked by the U.S. authorities' palliative assertions that "there was no radiation leak" as a result of the test range incident. This clearly does not tally with the urgent security measures taken at Rainier Mesa. Specialists have recalled that in the past as a result of underground nuclear explosions carried out in the United States there have been a number of instances of the discharge of radioactive materials beyond the national territorial borders, which is a violation of the 1963 treaty banning nuclear weapon tests in the atmosphere, in outer space, and under water.

REAGAN'S 'STAR WARS' PREPARATIONS VIEWED

LD170356 Moscow World Service in English 2110 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Excerpts] Soon it will be year since President Reagan proclaimed the program of his country's preparations for star wars. More on this from our commentator Viktor Olin. This is what he writes:

Obviously the thesis those who dominate outer space dominate the world continues to hypnotize the minds of U.S. Administration officials. To ensure freedom of action for itself, Washington actually abrogated its treaty with the Soviet Union on banning antimissile defense and announced its intention to reduce and possibly stop its participation in the United Nations committee on the peaceful use of outer space.

At the latest United Nations General Assembly session the United States invariably voted against all measures aimed at preventing outer space from being militarized, such as the Soviet proposal that a treaty be signed on banning the use of armed forces in outer space and from space against the earth.

All this activity, fraught with the spread of the arms race to outer space, gives rise to universal concern, which in the United States itself has been reflected in the congressional refusal to allocate funds for developing antisatellite weapons until the President submits a full report on the possibility of reaching an agreement with the USSR. The deadline for publishing this report is 31 March. Now what kind of a document this is to be was made obvious when Richard N. Perle, the assistant secretary of defense, spoke at the Senate recently. He rejected the possibility of reaching an agreement with the USSR and substantiated this with the following uncomplicated scheme: Since it would be difficult to verify the implementation of such an agreement, it must not be signed at all. Anyway, Perle declared, even if there were no verification problems, such an agreement is not worth signing.

Competent specialists, including American, have easily dismissed this logic. Every test of space weapons is easy to verify, they said, and therefore the USSR and the United States must reach an agreement now, without waiting until such weapons are built. This is what the Soviet Union suggests. Experts also declare that the plans for creating an antimissile umbrella are unrealizable. They are only capable of creating an illusion of security and impunity, which would sharply lower the feeling that divides the world from a thermonuclear catastrophe.

Space weapons are needed only by those who plan to deal a preemptive strike and intend to gain military superiority. Such intentions however lack sense, because the other side won't sit idle. It will take retaliatory steps, and this can only result in placing in orbit nuclear weaponry and complex automatic systems which would decide on the questions of war and peace already without human participation.

The Soviet Union clearly realizes the dangerous consequences of such development of events. That is why it opposes the militarization of outer space. It stands for exploring and using space exclusively for peaceful purposes. The vital interests of humanity, the Soviet leader Konstantin Chernenko stressed in his recent speech, demand that humans stop nuclear weapons from being proliferated and prevent the nuclear arms race from being spread to new spheres, such as outer space.

ALLIES 'EAGER' TO FOLLOW PENTAGON TO SPACE

LD161419 Moscow TASS in English 1319 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Text] Moscow March 16 TASS -- TASS commentator Aleksey Popov writes:

After getting its European allies and Japan deeply involved in the Pentagon's plans on earth, Washington is seeking their involvement in its militarist undertakings also in outer space. The so-called "peaceful" project of a U.S. permanent orbital base, which the Pentagon plans to include in its complex of anti-satellite systems and ABM defenses, is the main object of the proposed cooperation. President Reagan said in his speech on January 25th, 1984, that the United States wanted its friends to help it accomplish those tasks and share all their benefits jointly with it. The director of the U.S. National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), James Beggs, was dispatched to Europe and Japan to explain these "benefits" to U.S. friends and secure their consent to participation in the project.

After visiting London, Rome and Bonn, he arrived in Paris where, like he had done on the previous legs of his tour, he advertised the "benefits" of the U.S. space program in meetings with government officials and businessmen and urged European partners to join its implementation as soon as possible. Then Beggs went on to Japan where he acted under the same scenario, supplementing it with overt pressure on the Tokyo leadership. Everywhere he went, he was told of local "interest" in the American project but given no official consent to participation in it, despite preliminary promises. By acting in this way, Washington's allies are trying to calm public opinion in their countries. The overwhelming majority of the Japanese and Europeans oppose the Reagan administration's plans to drag their countries into the arms race in space. Ruling circles in Japan and West European countries cannot but reckon with these anti-war sentiments as well as with existing laws which limit the uses of outer space to those made for peaceful purposes.

In the meantime some military figures and politicians in these countries already are prepared to join the American program of militarizing space, with whose help the United States would like to gain world ascendancy. Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone, for example, bluntly declared that he is "interested in this project". West European and Japanese corporations, connected with military business, clearly want to get their piece of the "pie" which is promised to them for participation in Washington's space undertakings. According to the U.S. President's Directive 119 of January 6, 1984, 27 billion dollars will be spent in the next five years on preparations for "star wars". In all, a total of more than 100 billion dollars are planned to be appropriated for the purpose by 2000.

The American "pie", however, has happened to have a bitter taste. The Washington emissary declared that Europe should finance 25 per cent of the cost of the U.S. orbital base, instead of the ten per cent as planned earlier, while Japan should cover 20 per cent of its cost, instead of 10 to 14 per cent. Thus, the United States, as usual, is trying to shift a sizable part of the expenditures involved in implementing its own plan on its allies.

Nevertheless during Begg's voyage some representatives of these countries spoke in unison with him about the "peaceful" tasks and "benefits" of the American space program and encouraged the Washington envoy with unofficial promises. Moreover, the Tokyo leadership declared that the United States will in any case receive latest technology and other assistance essential to implementing its "space plans" from Japan. According to Western press reports, Japanese corporations have already begun to develop components for the U.S. orbital complex. A "laser gun" is being developed in the FRG. Isn't it being developed for the Pentagon's "peaceful" base? Thus, some U.S. allies are showing eager readiness to follow the Pentagon from earth to space, forgetting in the process that the militarization of outer space, in the words of prominent American scientist Richard Garvin, is nothing but "a prelude to war on earth".

'SLANDEROUS RHETORIC' ABOUT SOVIET JEWS HIT

LD170447 Moscow TASS in English 0038 GMT 17 Mar 84

["Why the Fuss" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow March 17 TASS -- TASS political news analyst Yuriy Kornilov writes:

Malicious concoctions about the USSR have for some time now been a stock in trade of U.S. policy, the architects of which call the Soviet Union "the focus of evil" and urge a "crusade" against socialism.

Fresh proof of this fact is the latest statements of the U.S. President, in which he is holding forth with absurd and provocative allegations about "persecution" of Jews in the USSR.

Are there any facts or evidence cited in those statements? There are none, because none exists. Instead the U.S. President tried to back his slanderous rhetoric with the reminder that a certain Shcharanskiy is serving a sentence in the USSR, the selfsame Shcharanskiy who has long been held up by the right-wing capitalist press as a "scientist" presumably "victimized for his convictions."

A fine case of stretching a point indeed! Anatoliy Shcharanskiy, pictured in Washington as "a victim of arbitrariness," was really sentenced by a Soviet court way back in 1978 -- but on charges of spying for a foreign (U.S., to be precise) intelligence service. His guilt was proved by irrefutable facts and testimony of witnesses. In other words, if Shcharanskiy really is a "scientist," then only in the sense that he is a well-trained spy who learned with the CIA's help just one "science," if we may say so, the science of spying. Meanwhile, as everyone knows, spies are tried and punished according to the laws of any country, including the United States, regardless of their nationality.

Incidentally, the CIA bosses must have a file on Shcharanskiy and know perfectly well what sort of "activity" they oriented their agent to and what "instructions" they were giving him. Gentlemen from Langley could without much trouble equip their President with materials about the spying activities of Shcharanskiy, and the statements of the White House chief -- presuming he has no more topical themes to discuss than the fate of the U.S. spy caught in the act -- would look far more substantiated. Incidentally, perhaps, the task was in the first place to use anti-Soviet concoctions not merely to throw another lump of dirt at the USSR but also to try to whitewash the hapless agent? Anyway, the slanderous exercises of the White House will not bring any profit to Washington. Lies remain lies however many times you repeat them, or whoever repeat them, for that matter.

REAGAN TREATS POLITICS LIKE 'ENTERTAINMENT'

LD182251 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1500 GMT 18 Mar 84

[From the "International Panorama" program presented by Aleksandr Bovin]

[Text] West German magazine DER STERN has acquainted its readers with quite an interesting statement by Reagan. If one is to believe the magazine, the President said: Politics is the same as the entertainment business. You make a really strong opening, then leave the action to itself for a while, then bring it to a tremendous finale.

Well, as it applies to our talk today, one can, with a certain degree of imagination, construe things this way: The really strong opening we can consider to be the results of U.S. policy in southern Africa. One can clearly feel a certain haphazardness in Central America, because of the arguments (?with Congress), the disputes, all the weighing up of options. And the tremendous finale is, of course, Lebanon. We have already seen such finales, in Saigon and Tehran. Of course, nobody can ban Reagan from treating politics like the entertainment business, but if that is the case then let the Americans not be offended at those who cease to have a serious attitude to them, those who see no sense in talking to a President who is amusing himself [ne vidyat tolku v razgovorakh s razvlekayushchimsya prezidentom].

SOVIET-JAPANESE FOREIGN MINISTRY TALKS CONCLUDE

LD171244 Moscow TASS in English 1235 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Text] Moscow March 17 TASS -- Consultations have been held in Moscow between Deputy Foreign Minister of the USSR M.S. Kapitsa and Deputy Foreign Minister of Japan I. Nakajima with the participation of groups of experts from the two sides. The sides discussed international problems of mutual interest and a broad range of issues of Soviet-Japanese relations.

The next round of consultations between the Foreign Ministry of the USSR and the Foreign Ministry of Japan will be held in Tokyo. The date will be agreed upon by the sides.

Also took part in the consultations: from the Japanese side -- Japan's Ambassador to the USSR M. Takashima, from the Soviet side -- head of a department of the USSR Foreign Ministry N.N. Solovyov.

Deputy Foreign Minister of Japan I. Nakajima made a sightseeing tour of the cities of Leningrad and Kiev.

I. Nakajima left for home today.

JAPAN-USSR FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY MEETS IN TOKYO

LD171053 Moscow TASS in English 1030 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Text] Tokyo March 17 TASS -- The movement for friendship between the Soviet Union and Japan is inseparable from the struggle for lesser tensions in the Far East and meets the vital interests of the peoples of the two countries. This is the unanimous opinion of the delegates of an annual congress of the Japan-USSR Society which has opened here. The delegates will discuss during their two-day meeting the work of the public organization over the past period and adopt a programme for 1984. A delegation from the USSR-Japan Society is present at the congress.

KOMSOMOL'S MISHIN RECEIVES DPRK DELEGATION

TM161411 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 16 Mar 84 p 3

[Unattributed report: "Guests of the Komsomol"]

[Text] A delegation of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea [LSWYK] headed by Kim Chang-yong, vice chairman of the LSWYK Central Committee, visited the Soviet Union 10 through 15 March this year at the invitation of the Komsomol Central Committee. The delegation familiarized itself with the work of Komsomol organizations in Moscow and the Belorussian SSR on the communist education of young people.

On 15 March the delegation was received by V.M. Mishin, first secretary of the Komsomol Central Committee. During the talks, which were held in a friendly atmosphere, questions of the participation of the two countries' young people in communist and socialist building, the prospects for developing cooperation between the Lenin Komsomol and the LSWYK, and the progress in preparing for the 12th World Youth and Students Festival were discussed. Yu. A. Dergausov, secretary of the Komsomol Central Committee, participated in the talks.

KESHTMAND ADDRESSES DRA CONFERENCE OF ULEMAS

LD170609 Moscow TASS in English 0019 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Text] Kabul March TASS -- The second conference of ulemas and religious leaders of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan was held here today. The participants in the conference, representatives of all provinces of Afghanistan, endorsed the provision on the Supreme Council of Ulemas and elected the new council.

Speaking at the conference, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan S.A. Keshtmand said that the meeting was taking place at a time when revolutionary power is being consolidated in the country and tasks of the April Revolution are being successfully implemented. The documents adopted yesterday at the jirgah (assembly) of representatives of the Afghan clergy, he stressed, provide evidence of their patriotism and allegiance to the ideals of the revolution.

Having recalled that the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and the government respect the customs and beliefs of the people, S.A. Keshtmand noted the responsibility of religious workers in connection with the increased aggressiveness of international imperialism, primarily American. S.A. Keshtmand firmly denounced terroristic actions of counterrevolution against the Afghan people, with more than 200 religious workers having died from the hands of counterrevolutionaries. The bandits, he said, are making people leave their homes and even the homeland with the help of force, deception and intimidation. The revolutionary power is not going to take vengeance on the people who were deceived, as hostile propaganda asserts, but it assists those who are willing to return to their native places. Thousands upon thousands of people return home in accordance with the amnesty decree.

Speaking of the foreign policy course of the party and the state, S.A. Keshtmand said that the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan would continue its peaceful course and no force or pressure would make it turn from the path chosen. Democratic Afghanistan supported and will support the peoples fighting for peace, freedom, democracy and social progress. We have always extended the hand of friendship to all the countries and peoples, including neighboring states.

The chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan highly appreciated the successfully-developing Soviet-Afghan relations. The USSR is a sincere and devoted friend of the people of Afghanistan, he stressed. This friendship stood the test of time, it resulted in highways, bridges, factories, plants, irrigation canals, dams, grain silos, electric power plants and many other structures of national economic significance. Protection of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of our country is also the result of our friendship, said S.A. Keshtmand. That friendship is the vivid example of fraternal assistance to the people who chose the way of the revolution, deliverance from backwardness, the way of socio-economic progress.

CIA 'SECRET WAR', U.S. EMBASSY ACTIONS IN DRA HIT

PM152012 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 15 Mar 84 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "The Inspirers of the Secret War"]

[Text] Kabul, 14 Mar -- The newspaper KABUL NEW TIMES has published an article headlined "The CIA's Secret War Against Afghanistan."

The Afghan counterrevolution, it says, receives no less than \$100 million annually through secret CIA channels. The sum total of U.S. aid to the counterrevolutionaries is several times more than the United States granted Afghanistan in the 20 years prior to the April Revolution.

Washington money, the newspaper points out, is financing the military training of anti-government gangs currently under way in more than 100 special camps on Pakistani territory. In Afghanistan itself CIA activity is directed by the U.S. Embassy in Kabul, which has turned into a veritable nest of spies.

KABUL NEW TIMES prints a list of Americans and citizens of a number of other countries who have been convicted of espionage. Among them are diplomatic staffers as well as paid agents recruited from among Afghans by the Western special services. Their evidence proves that the U.S. Embassy has been involved in preparing antigovernment demonstrations, publishing and disseminating subversive literature, and organizing acts of sabotage, has kept in constant contact with the counterrevolutionary gangs, and has been gathering secret information of a military, economic, and political nature. The U.S. "diplomats" have not even considered antique smuggling below them.

INDIAN DEMONSTRATORS SCORE U.S. NUCLEAR STANCE

LD180749 Moscow TASS in English 0734 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Text] New Delhi March 18 TASS -- Thousands of peace campaigners have held a demonstration in the Indian city of Patna, Bihar State, under the slogan "No to Reagan administration's scheming," "No to war preparations," "Save world from nuclear holocaust." The demonstrators demanded an immediate removal of new American first-strike nuclear missiles from Western Europe, freeze of the testing, production and deployment of nuclear armaments, termination of the escalation of the U.S. military might in the Indian Ocean and proclamation of this part of the world a peace zone in accordance with decisions of the United Nations.

INDIA KNOCKS U.S. 'UNDERHAND SCHEMING' ON PUNJAB

LD181413 Moscow TASS in English 1332 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Text] New Delhi March 18 TASS -- New facts have become public here of late indicating that the United States and some other countries are behind the aggravating situation in the Indian State of Punjab as well as behind the underhand scheming the purpose of which is to wrestle this state from the rest of India and set up a puppet "State of Khalistan" under the patronage of the U.S.A. According to the PRESS ASIA INTERNATIONAL news agency, not so long ago the U.S. Embassy in New Delhi hosted a conference which discussed ways for scaling up subversive operations in Punjab. Conference delegates decided among other things to set up several new centers in the U.S. and Pakistan for training terrorists who are to be later sent to India.

Local observers note that some right-wingers in the United States now demand that the leaders of Punjab separatists entrenched in the U.S.A. should be granted the status of observers at the United Nations. The secessionists whom the authorities have permitted access to Western mass media are propagating their ideas in the press, radio and television. Consulates of the "State of Khalistan" have opened in the United States, Great Britain, and some other Western countries.

Intervention from outside in the affairs of Punjab prevents the situation in that strategically important state of India from returning back to normal, the newspaper PATRIOT writes.

INDIA CALLS SRI LANKA VOA RELAY STATION 'THREAT'

LD170937 Moscow TASS in English 0624 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Text] New Delhi March 16 TASS -- TASS correspondent Aleksandr Vinogradov reports:

Addressing the session of the Indian Parliament taking place here, deputies from the ruling and opposition parties pointed out that the building of a Voice of America radio relay station in Sri Lanka was a provocative action of U.S. imperialism in Asia and the Pacific.

The new radio relay station poses a threat to India's security, B.M. Mohanti, a deputy from the ruling Indian National Congress (I), said. According to him, the United States intends to use it to destabilize the situation in different countries and to spread misinformation about the Non-aligned Movement.

S. Chakravarti, a deputy from the Communist Party of India (Marxist), characterised the Voice of America as the voice of neo-colonialism which would broadcast propaganda in Asian, African and Persian Gulf countries. The station is a weapon of psychological warfare waged against the emergent states, against their sovereignty and independence, and against a new world economic order, he said. According to the deputy, the building of that station is a component of the overall aggressive strategy of the United States in the Indian Ocean basin.

The parliamentarians voiced particular concern over the reports that the station will perform military missions, specifically guide U.S. warships in the Indian Ocean and the Pacific. Deputy K.K. Tivari stressed it was necessary to come to realize that "new threat" fully.

Indian External Affairs Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao who addressed the session told the law makers that the United States was going to install in Sri Lanka four radio transmitters with a capacity of 500 kilowatts each and two transmitters with a capacity of 250 kilowatts each. In this way they will be able to broadcast to the whole of Asia. Pointing out India's concern over that fact, the external affairs minister said that the Indian Government was now conducting talks with Sri Lanka on that subject. The Non-aligned Movement stands for establishing a new world order in the mass communications, he stressed.

SRV'S VO VAN KIET ARRIVES FOR WORKING VISIT

LD172128 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1930 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Text] Vo Van Kiet, member of the Politburo of the Vietnamese Communist Party Central Committee, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, chairman of the State Planning Commission of the Republic, arrived in Moscow on a working visit today.

NGUYEN CO THACH'S INDONESIA TALKS 'CONSTRUCTIVE'

PM161155 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Mar 84 First Edition p 5

[Boris Barakhta "Commentator's Column": "A Positive Step"]

[Text] SRV Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach's official visit to Indonesia has ended. The constructive exchange of opinions on questions of bilateral relations was continued in Jakarta and international and regional problems were also broached.

Commenting on the results of the visit, the foreign press has been particularly noting the purposeful, coordinated foreign policy course of Vietnam, Laos, and Kampuchea, which is aimed at establishing a fruitful dialogue with the ASEAN states and at the formulation on a mutually acceptable basis of measures to eliminate persisting contradictions and to ultimately turn Southeast Asia into a region of stability, good-neighborliness, peace, mutual understanding, and cooperation. The good will and initiative shown in this sphere by the three fraternal countries of Indochina are well known. They were restated at the recent consultative meeting of the SRV, Lao, and PRK foreign ministers in Vientiane and aroused the attention of official circles, the public, and the mass media in the countries of the region.

Having overcome many difficulties, Vietnam, Laos, and Kampuchea are now confidently resolving the tasks of economic and cultural building and -- with the fraternal assistance of the Soviet Union and the other socialist community countries -- are laying the foundations of a new society. These states' foreign policy is characterized by a desire for lasting peace, mutual understanding, and cooperation. Thus, as the Vietnamese side again noted during the meetings in Jakarta, every effort must be made to ease the atmosphere in the region and to develop cooperation. Vietnamese-Indonesian contacts at different levels indicate realism and positive moves in this direction.

This is also demonstrated by a Vietnamese-Indonesian scientific seminar held in Hanoi recently. As NHAN DAN has written, the seminar was a major contribution to the consolidation of dialogue between the Southeast Asian countries and demonstrated the highly promising potential for the development of economic cooperation between the SRV and Indonesia as well as with the other states of the region. The recent visit to Vietnam by B. Murdani, commander in chief of Indonesia's Armed Forces, also promoted mutual understanding. The present official talks in Jakarta can also be expected to provide a new impetus to these positive processes.

It is not confrontation and distrust, but rather constructive talks in a spirit of trust and mutual interest that are the main path to the solution of Southeast Asia's problems and to the establishment of an atmosphere of good-neighborliness and cooperation among the region's states.

PRESIDIUM GREETES AUSTRALIA ON NATIONAL DAY

LD171105 Moscow TASS in English 1924 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Text] Moscow March 16 TASS -- The Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet has sent a telegram to Sir Ninian Stephen, Australia's governor-general, in which it conveyed

congratulations and good wishes to the Australian people on the occasion of the national holiday - Australia Day.

In his reply telegram the governor-general of Australia expressed on behalf of his country's people and on his own behalf gratitude for the congratulations and good wishes.

AUSTRALIA'S 'WIDENING' PACIFIC ROLE QUESTIONED

PM161407 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 16 Mar 84 p 3

[Boris Zaytsev "Commentator's Opinion": "Dangerous Partnership"?]

[Text] Under U.S. pressure, Australia is widening its involvement in the West's global strategy in the Pacific region. Precisely this is the purport of the creation by Australia and New Zealand of a so-called special "operational deployment force" modeled on the American "Rapid Deployment Force."

Does Australia intend to assume the functions of a policeman in the region? This in no way tallies with the Australian Government's former statements of its intention to pursue an independent and peace-loving policy. Moreover, its recent actions attest to an ever-increasing departure from its assurances. Canberra is activating military cooperation with Washington within the framework of the ANZUS bloc. Despite the fact that this bloc's zone of action is formally restricted to the Pacific, the United States has secured Australia's assistance in building up American military might in the Indian Ocean. Australia's ruling circles have given their consent to the creation of new strategic military bases for the Pentagon in their country in addition to those that already exist and have agreed to the U.S. military using local airfields and ports. It is also hard to combine with a "love of peace" the constant expansion of Australia's military budget, which has reached \$5.2 billion this year.

Justifying their actions, Australia's official authorities are trying to convince the public that "only a close military alliance with the United States can guarantee the country's security and peace in the region." However, the inhabitants of the fifth continent are clearly aware of the danger of such an alliance. The ranks of members of the antiwar movement opposed to the military alliance imposed by the United States, which poses a direct threat to the country's security, are growing daily.

KULIKOV, ZHIVKOV HOLD 'CORDIAL, COMRADELY' TALKS

PM191155 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 18 Mar 84 Second Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Meeting in Sofia"]

[Text] Sofia, 17 Mar -- T. Zhivkov, general secretary of the BCP Central Committee and chairman of the Bulgarian State Council, has received Marshal of the Soviet Union V.G. Kulikov, commander in chief of the Warsaw Pact Joint Armed Forces, who has arrived here in connection with the "Soyuz-84" exercises.

Army General D. Dzhurov, member of the BCP Central Committee Politburo and Bulgarian minister of national defense, took part in the meeting.

The meeting passed in a cordial, comradely atmosphere.

[Sofia BTA in English at 1249 GMT on 17 March carries a report on the talks which adds the following:

[Marshal Viktor Kulikov reported on the proceeding of the exercise which is being carried out on the territories of Bulgaria, Romania, Hungary, the southwestern regions of the Soviet Union and the aquatoria of the Black Sea.

[They had a detailed talk on a wide range of questions related to the cooperation within the framework of the Warsaw Treaty Organization.

[The meeting which proceeded in a cordial and friendly atmosphere, was attended also by Army General Dobri Dzhurov, minister of national defence of Bulgaria, member of the Politburo of the CC of the BCP.]

DEPUTY PREMIER MARTYNOV, POLISH MINISTER MEET

PM152020 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 15 Mar 84 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report under the general heading "Official Reports"]

[Text] On 14 March N.V. Martynov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the USSR Gosnab, received J. Wozniak, Polish minister of materials management, and had a talk with him on further developing and deepening scientific and technical cooperation in the sphere of material and technical supply and signed an agreement on the subject.

During its stay in the Soviet Union, the Polish delegation was acquainted with the experience of the work of the USSR Gosnab's material and technical supply organs in the sphere of organizing material and technical supply and the rational use of material resources.

'COMMENDABLE' BOOK ON POLISH CRISIS REVIEWED

PM141307 Moscow NEW TIMES in English No 10, Mar 84 pp 24-25

[Viktor Tsoppi book review: "Hope is Becoming a Certainty"]

[Text] To study history in the making, to investigate the rapid, ever-fluid march of events, is a necessary and useful, but by no means a simple matter. Denied the vantage point of time from which to survey developments and the evolution of the social progress of which not only he but all his contemporaries are witnesses and participants, the investigator takes something of a risk.

The greatest danger of erring stalks those who, lightmindedly or prompted by their class allegiance, strike the pose of a seer endowed with an unfailing insight into the whys and wherefores of what is happening and whither it is leading.

This dubious role has been assumed by many Western political theorists. For instance, those who long ago began preparing the ground for a crisis situation in Poland and saw in the events that shook that country in 1980-81 a tempting opportunity for an all-out attack on socialism, both the system and the ideology. The multitude of books and tracts they have concocted in anticommunist frenzy harp on one and the same theme: "Poland of the eighties is the beginning of the world socialism headed by the Soviet Union," because "the Polish workers' revolt against the socialist order was inevitable and spontaneous"; because "the Poles cannot bear the thought of accepting the Soviet model of state organization imposed on them as a result of Yalta"; because "the Communists propound and seek to implant in the mind of the masses the totalitarian idea, whereas the masses are ordained by the Almighty to practice unrestricted and all-permissive pluralism of opinions," and so on ad infinitum.

Vadim Trubnikov defines the genre of his book as a documentary study. This is a correct if not exhaustive definition. It is at once an impassioned piece of journalism and a thoroughly documented scholarly research. The author had no more time at his disposal for investigation of the subject than any of the newly-baked Western "Polonists." He examined the same, often contradictory events, circumstances and situations. He listened to the same frenzied declarations of hatred for socialism by its undisguised enemies, and the same hypocritical mouthings of still disguised enemies. He looked, listened and pondered, and systematized the mass of information, the multiplicity of facts and details in which it is so easy to lose one's way.

But Trubnikov did not lose his way. The book is written with an unfaltering hand. His analysis is strictly logical from beginning to end. He does not conceal the fact that the subject interests him and he succeeds in interesting the reader as he unravels the tightest knots in the evolution of the Polish crisis, explaining intelligently and popularly the nature of the events of 1980-81 and stripping the mask off the organizers of the insidious anti-Polish conspiracy and their accomplices and henchmen.

Trubnikov makes a detailed study of both the internal and external aspects of the crisis, and traces their inter-connection and interaction. It would be easiest of all to ascribe what happened in Poland solely to imperialist interference. Equally simple would it be to interpret the crisis only as the result of real but regrettably negative phenomena in the political practice of the country's former party and government leadership. Which, incidentally, is what Western observers are still doing. Both these approaches taken separately are unacceptable. The author is of course right in proceeding from this thesis contained in the Report of the Central Committee of the CPSU to the 26th Congress of the Party: "Wherever imperialist subversive activity is compounded with mistakes and miscalculations in home policy there arise conditions that stimulate elements hostile to socialism. This is what has happened in fraternal Poland."

The reader will find in Trubnikov's book the answers to many questions -- who devised Operation Polonia, when and why. How it was financed. Who organized the core of the counter-revolutionaries and of whom did it consist. It came about that the word "solidarity," sacred to the international proletariat, was usurped. How could workers have followed the professional reactionaries?

The author does not shy away from any of these, at times pointed and as yet not fully studied questions. He himself says that he does not claim to have made an exhaustive analysis. It is to the author's credit that when he does not have enough information for an exhaustive explanation of one or another fact he says so, pointing out that not everything has yet been brought to light, not all the documentary evidence is available.

There are some aspects of the book that might perhaps be controversial. I personally feel that it is a pity the author has given so little space to the role of the intellectuals, both those who rallied to the banners of the counterrevolution and those who did not betray socialism. Yet this constitutes a substantial slice of contemporary Polish history. However, my reservations in no way detract from the value of the book. It is an extremely commendable work.

I can appreciate how much effort went into it. For although I am not an expert on Poland I have had occasion to write about Poland in recent years and have been there.

I was there in 1979, when in an atmosphere of confusion and illusions crashed and others were conjured up and there was thunder in the air. I was there shortly after martial law had been introduced. And then in the early spring of last year. Comparing my observations and impressions with Trubnikov's conclusions, I can fully endorse his closing words: "Hope has returned to Poland. Today hope is becoming a certainty. The certainty that the trials the Polish people have experienced will never be repeated."

(Footnote) (V. Trubnikov. "The Collapse of Operation Polonia, 1980-81." NOVOSTI PRESS AGENCY Publishers, Moscow, 1983)

HUNGARIAN AGRICULTURE MINISTER WRITES IN TRUD

PM151032 Moscow TRUD in Russian 28 Feb 84 p 3

[Article by J. Vancsa, Hungarian agriculture and food minister, under the rubric "Friends' Experience": "Secrets of Hungarian Grainfield"]

[Text] Budapest -- Today the successes of Hungarian agriculture are being talked and written about in many countries. The fact is that we have managed to become a world leader in this sphere. On average, we obtain 48-50 quintals of wheat per hectare and around 60 quintals of corn, and in its per capita meat production -- 148 kg -- Hungary has overtaken the developed capitalist countries.

The strength of Hungary's collective agriculture was most vividly provided in 1983, when the country was hit by a severe drought. Despite the poor weather conditions, we only failed to fulfill the outlined plans by an insignificant amount. And this came about primarily thanks to the presence of large collective farms. I will cite just one example. In 1952, when the country's agriculture was of the small peasant variety, a similar drought led to catastrophic losses: Output volume dropped by 26 percent. The wheat harvest fell by 30 percent and the corn harvest by 50 percent compared with previous years.

Of course, in order to effectively counter the forces of nature, it is not enough just to set up large farms. Modern materials and machines are necessary. In short, the standard of agricultural production reflects the standard of the equipment being operated in agriculture.

We are constantly concerned to see that the peasants make the utmost, highly efficient use of the material and technical resources put at their disposal. In 1983, thanks to these very factors, we managed to avoid any grave consequences from the drought, and the whole maintained the level of development of agricultural production achieved over many years.

The rich experience of the socialist countries is reflected in Hungarian agriculture's high results. Democracy in management, autonomy, economic cooperation, and material incentives are among the linchpins of our agrarian policy.

We rely above all on large farms. They supply the overwhelming proportion of produce. Many of them, alongside their mainstream activity, also engage in produce processing and industrial, construction, and trading activity. It is they who supply the necessary materials to farmstead and subsidiary plots and gear them toward production of specific produce needed by the country. Farmstead and subsidiary plots currently produce one-fifth of all agricultural produce. Almost 1.5 million Hungarian families are involved in farmstead plots.

Today, Hungary's agricultural workers are fully resolved to achieve new successes. The 1984 plan envisages a significant increase in the production of agricultural produce. This task is realistic, and the groundwork for its successful fulfillment has already been done. Thus, the sowing plan for winter crops has been more than 4 percent over-fulfilled. The development of stockraising and other sectors is proceeding at a good rate. The main thing now is to improve production quality and profitability.

Hungary's agricultural workers count on efficient cooperation with the USSR and the other fraternal countries. This has already played a large role. Suffice it to say that roughly 40 percent of the machines at work in Hungary came from the CEMA countries, mainly from the USSR. Our specialists willingly share their accumulated experience with their friends, and in turn enjoy the opportunity of utilizing their friends' experience in their own work. This cooperation mechanism helps greatly in implementing the current and long-term plans for the development of Hungary's agriculture.

SFRY'S MARKOVIC COMMENTS ON TIES WITH USSR

LD151354 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 15 Mar 84

[Text] Markovic, chairman of the LCY Central Committee Presidium, speaking at a Belgrade press conference, dealt in particular with the question of developing Soviet-Yugoslav relations. He stressed that during the recent visit to the USSR by Zarkovic, deputy chairman of the Presidency of Yugoslavia, there was a thorough and all-round exchange of views on bilateral cooperation and on problems of the international situation. At his meetings with Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and with other Soviet leaders, emphasis was laid on the striving of the two countries and parties to develop further friendly relations and cooperation on the principles contained in the Belgrade Declaration of 1955 and the Moscow Declaration and Statement of 1956. Special attention at the Moscow talks was paid to the contemporary international situation, the struggle for peace, and overcoming tension in the world. These exchanges of views, Markovic stated, show that on these questions we have identical or similar points of view. Yugoslavia ascribes particular significance to transforming the Balkans into a nuclear-free zone, a zone of peace and cooperation.

USSR, SFRY TRADE ASSOCIATIONS EXCHANGE CONTRACTS

PM161432 Moscow EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA in Russian No 11, Mar 84 (Signed to Press 6 Mar 84) p 20

[Unattributed report: "Contracts With SFRY Enterprises"]

[Text] The Stankoimport, Sudoimport, and Tekhnopromimport all-union foreign trade associations have signed contracts with the Yugoslav enterprises Agrovodina, Investimport, and Jugotehna. They provide for deliveries of Soviet metalcutting machine tools, forging and press equipment, and bearings to Yugoslavia, and for the delivery of 20 specialized river ships for fruit transportation and 200 electric conveyers for grain elevators from the SFRY to the USSR.

SHALAYEV HEADS AUCCTU DELEGATION TO FRG

PM152013 Moscow TRUD in Russian 15 Mar 84 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Delegation's Departure"]

[Text] An AUCCTU delegation headed by AUCCTU Chairman S.A. Shalayev flew to Duesseldorf 13 March at the invitation of the West German Labor Union Federation.

At the airport the delegation was seen off by AUCCTU Secretary A.M. Subbotin and leading AUCCTU officials.

Views Do Not Coincide

PM161406 Moscow TRUD in Russian 16 Mar 84 p 3

[Own correspondent A. Antsiferov dispatch: "Visit Concluded"]

[Text] Duesseldorf, 15 Mar -- A Soviet trade union delegation headed by AUCCTU Chairman S.A. Shalayev has concluded its visit to the FRG. The delegation was in West Germany at the invitation of the West German Labor Union Federation [DGB] Federal Board.

During the talks between AUCCTU Chairman S.A. Shalayev and DGB Chairman E. Breit, held at DGB Duesseldorf headquarters, there was an exchange of information on the activity of trade unions in the two countries. They discussed questions of further cooperation between them and a broad range of problems of the international trade union movement.

S.A. Shalayev spoke in particular about the broad support in our country for the CPSU Central Committee February (1984) Plenum decisions and the initiatives of the party and the Soviet Government aimed at ensuring lasting peace and international security.

Assessing the results of the Duesseldorf talks, the head of the Soviet delegation emphasized in an interview with the TRUD correspondent that the talks were businesslike, frank, and constructive.

"Our views do not coincide on all issues, since we are working under the conditions of different sociopolitical systems. I do, however, think that the talks which have just ended have been very useful. They have shown again that we and our DGB colleagues are unanimous on the main point: today, when the world situation has deteriorated, there is no alternative to the policy of detente and international cooperation. For this purpose our countries' trade unions can and must help consolidate detente's gains and step up their efforts in the struggle for peace and for averting the threat of thermonuclear war. This is in the interests of Soviet and West German working people, in the interests of peace and security in Europe and all over the world," S.A. Shalayev said.

The AUCCTU delegation left for home today.

FRG'S VOGEL ON DEPLOYMENT, DETERIORATION OF TIES

LD190753 Moscow TASS in English 0742 GMT 19 Mar 84

[Text] New York March 19 TASS -- Hans-Jochen Vogel, chairman of the SDP group in the FRG's Bundestag, has stated in an interview with the U.S. NEWSWEEK magazine that NATO's decision on the deployment of new U.S. medium-range nuclear missiles in a number of West European countries became the cause of deterioration of East-West relations which have become more strained, particularly after the break-off of arms control talks. He emphasized that he is convinced that European security cannot be strengthened by means of the new missiles and that this is now the opinion of millions of Germans in the FRG.

'THOUSANDS' DEMONSTRATE AGAINST COMISO MISSILES

LD181150 Moscow TASS in English 1056 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Text] Rome March 18 TASS -- "No to nuclear madness", "stop base construction in Comiso", chanted thousands of anti-war demonstrators at a rally in Venice. The rally was held at the initiative of several local peace and disarmament committees. Delegations of peace campaigners from many parts of the country, representing different political parties, trade unions, progressive youth, women's and other public organizations, arrived in the city.

An address by the demonstration organizers stresses that with the arrival of first cruise missiles in Italy, it is necessary to mount further the struggle against the perilous plans of the Pentagon and NATO.

ANTONOV REJAILING 'VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS'

LD170020 Moscow TASS in English 1856 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Text] Rome March 16 TASS -- Bulgarian citizen Sergey Antonov, who was groundlessly accused of being involved in the attempt on the life of the head of the Roman Catholic Church Pope John Paul the Second, was transferred, by decision of the Rome court of Cassation, to the "Rebibbga" prison. It is noted here that such a step runs counter to the generally recognized norms and is a gross violation of human rights.

Sergey Antonov's lawyers, expressing firm confidence that their client is not guilty, note his grave physical condition. Antonov's long stay in prison undermined his health and his return to the prison cell might have extremely grave consequences. This will be the responsibility of those representatives of the authorities who took such an inhuman decision.

NEW SPANISH CP LEADER ON PARTY FUTURE, SUPPORT

PM161309 Moscow ZA RUBEZHOM in Russian No 10, Mar 84 (Signed to Press 1 March 1984) p 11

[Reprint of interview in Madrid INTERVIU magazine with Ignacio Gallego, secretary general of the new Communist Party of Spain, under the rubric "Topical Interview": "'For One Party of All Communists'"]

[Text] The founding congress of the new Communist Party of Spain -- the congress of the unity of communists -- was held in January in Madrid. The decree adopted stresses that the party is built on the principles of the scientific theory of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism and is a component of the international communist and workers movement. The congress expressed itself in favor of returning to the Leninist principles of party building and declared that the new party will resolutely expose "Eurocommunism" as a manifestation of revisionism and a slide toward positions of social democracy in the workers movement. Ignacio Gallego, prominent figure in the Spanish communist workers movement, was elected secretary general of the new Communist Party of Spain. An interview with him is published below.

Already, the mere mention of the name of Ignacio Gallego excites the young adherents of the new Communist Party of Spain. This man, with his fine gray head of hair, has burst swiftly into the country's political life.

Mild-mannered, sincere, soft spoken, and yet as hard as nails, Gallego is trying to organize the Communists to struggle to make up for lost time. "I've not changed," his big black eyes seem to say. "The others -- the ones who strayed from the planned road -- have changed."

"Eurocommunism" Was Not Connected With Reality

"'Eurocommunism' was what led us to this situation," Gallego believes, "And ultimately it was what forced me to expound clearly the conclusions which I reached not only by theoretical analysis, but also on the basis of practice."

Question: Yet it seemed to be the invention of the century...

Answer: "Eurocommunism" was indeed presented in Spain as the means which would make us a great political force, a major party, however, in actual fact we kept coming up against crises, or contradictions, or loss of confidence in us, which clearly manifested themselves at the last parliamentary elections. Even before the elections, the error was obvious since two-thirds of the members had left the party.

Question: Yet even you played the "Eurocommunist" card...

Answer: No, no, I never espoused "Eurocommunism" at all.

Question: So what kept you in the ranks of Carrillo's organization?

Answer: The party spirit and the hope that the results achieved would help everybody understand whether the chosen path was the correct one. In Cordoba I never spoke from "Eurocommunist" positions and, as is known, we Communists obtained the largest number of votes there. Practice also showed us that "Eurocommunism" did not prove its worth as a tactic either. The fact that "Eurocommunism" could not convince many people who supported us to continue to stay with us is proof of this. "Eurocommunism" immediately started to lose its importance in the party, because it was not connected with reality.

Question: It must be recognized that when Carrillo's Communist Party was legalized (in April 1977 -- editor's note) many socialist-internationalists were not enjoying success in Spain. Does it not seem like that to you?

Answer: When we began to speak from "Eurocommunist" positions, it was very clearly directed no longer toward criticism of socialism, but toward outright censure of it. Over the course of some years, the Spanish Communist Party (CPE) persistently attacked all squabbles in the socialist countries. This did not please many people. Here in Spain, under Franco, the broad people's masses sympathized with Russia because they were disposed against Hitlerism and Russia was waging war against fascism. In addition, even earlier -- during the civil war in Spain -- the Soviet Union was on the side of the republicans. It was not proper to touch on these feelings at the time that a policy of pacts, agreements, and alliances was being pursued within the country. This policy was justified by the need to make any sacrifices for the sake of democracy, which was and still is a highly subjective argument.

Question: But, speaking honestly, do you believe that it would have been possible to make a painless shift to democracy with a Communist Party in the form to which you wish to restore it now?

Answer: Yes, I think so. And this would immediately have helped to strengthen democracy, since the concept of it would have become clearer.

Question: Does it not seem to you that during this transitional democratic process, a patently internationalist and pro-Soviet Communist Party would have been out of the running?

Answer: I have not read anywhere that the Communist Party of Spain would have been out of the running. On the contrary, I consider it a realistic assumption that democracy in Spain would entail the legalization of the Communists.

Question: It is still not completely clear what the new association will be called, since your title of "Communist Party" seems not to mean communism in the spirit of Gerardo Iglesias (he was secretary general after Carrillo -- editor's note). Is this not true?

Answer: We decided to call our party communist, although the PCE did in fact recently say that it would object to this. My attention is being drawn to the fact that the PCE leaders intend to resolve this question by going to court. Can a court ultimately really decide which party is genuinely communist? This is a matter for the Communist themselves.

Question: If we look back, was Carrillo's term as head of the Spanish Communist positive or negative on the whole?

Answer: To assess all Santiago Carrillo's activity negatively in a global sense would be frivolous, though, in my opinion, the course toward "Eurocommunism" in these past years has really done damage. I want to be fairer than those who have always echoed Carrillo, and for this reason I say that for all the years of his leadership I also bore part of the responsibility which I continued to bear until I left the party. Why talk only of Carrillo, what about all the rest?

Question: If Santiago Carrillo admits his errors, will he be admitted into the new Communist Party?

Answer: Carrillo is a man with several well considered ideas. During these discussions he has always said that my plan is not something fantastic. This attests that he approaches this question more seriously than the other party leaders, who deny even the obvious. On the other hand, I do not think that Carrillo is about to admit his errors, since he is possessed by the ideas of "Eurocommunism", though I believe that he is defending erroneous positions.

Question: It is paradoxical that you called your congress a forum of unity, when in reality it is a question of a split.

Answer: We managed to secure the self-disbandment of all communist groups and to hold a congress to form a single political force, which also said it will hold open its doors to everybody and work until a single party of all Communists is created in the country. The actual process of unification is very important, though some people forget that several weeks ago we had seven or eight communist parties and are now talking of a split or detachment.

With the emergence of "Eurocommunism" we lost many people who espoused moderate positions and who had the Spanish Socialist Workers' Party as an alternative, and also those who had a very precise conception of what a genuine Communist Party should be like.

Question: Why do you not like it when people say that you espouse "pro-Soviet" convictions? It is as if a priest did not like being described as a "proponent of the Vatican's ideas," isn't it?

"Many...Are on Our Side"

Answer: That does not worry me, it is just that this term is inaccurate. It is perfectly obvious that we are a party of proletarian internationalism, though we cannot fail to recognize (since this is historic fact) that communism first gained victory in Russia.

To say that somebody espouses "pro-Soviet" positions means saying nothing or presenting things in a distorted light. I espouse neither anti-Soviet nor pro-Soviet convictions. I am a Communist. It could equally be said that I speak from Cuban or Nicaraguan positions or the positions of any other revolution which is happening in the world. Our internationalism is inseparable from our patriotism and from the class nature of our party.

Question: Are you revolutionaries?

Answer: Yes we are revolutionaries, though it is necessary to make a distinction between revolution and transformations. It is not the same thing.

Question: Is your Communist Party financed by Moscow?

Answer: Here in Spain, whenever a new party emerges people ask above all "who will pay for it," and they forget that parties of workers are always created by the efforts of the workers themselves. I do not know which state provided Lenin with assistance when he created his party; in any case at that time there was no Soviet Union, and no other socialist country to help him. And yet he made it through. To hold our congress we needed 8 million pesetas, which were collected with great difficulty. However, despite all the allegations, Moscow did not give us one centimo.

Question: You even have a muse. Pepa Flores (popular singer -- editorial note), with her hand raised in communist greeting, has already become the symbol of the new Communist Party...

Answer: Pepa Flores is an attractive person who is well known and full of enthusiasm, but Jose Carlos (Plasa) -- a national prizewinner in the sphere of theatrical art -- and also Eloy de la Iglesia, and other very successful artists have also featured at our meetings. Many representatives of the intelligentsia and the world of art who left the PCE earlier now feel the need again to be in the ranks of communists and are on our side.

Question: What does Dolores Ibarruri say about all this?

Answer: I have a tremendous respect for her and have never heard that she espouses alone far-removed from the ideas of Marx and Lenin, and as for internationalism she has always expressed herself very clearly here. I heard how at the meeting in Bilbao she spoke with feeling of Moscow which is dear to her and which has become a symbol for millions of working people throughout the world, and yet she has not stopped being Spanish. The Soviet Union means a lot to Dolores. Her son Ruben died there in the Battle of Stalingrad. And she has always understood the role played by the Soviet Union in the development of the world communist movement.

Question: And Gerardo Iglesias?

Answer: Gerardo Iglesias affirms the same as Carrillo, but more crudely. He represents "Eurocommunism" in its most vulgar manifestation.

NORDIC FOREIGN MINISTERS CONFERENCE 13-14 MAR

LD170321 Moscow TASS in English 1535 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Text] Copenhagen March 16 TASS -- (TASS correspondent V. Loskutov). The foreign ministers of Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Iceland and Finland have expressed serious concern over the growth of tensions in the world. They attended a meeting in the Danish capital on March 13-14.

The speakers at the press conference stressed the wish of the Nordic countries to contribute actively to stabilizing the international situation and the readiness for a resumption of the dialogue between East and West.

The Nordic countries attach special significance to a further deepening of detente, in which all states have a stake. They consider it highly important to resume on a constructive basis talks on disarmament issues. The Nordic states, it was pointed out at the meeting, should continue efforts for furthering the process of detente, and contributing to the success of the Stockholm conference on confidence-building, security and disarmament in Europe.

The participants in the meeting exchanged views on the question of creation of a nuclear-free zone in the north of Europe and declared for continuing contacts for a further discussion of that issue.

The foreign ministers of the Nordic countries expressed concern over the developments in southern Africa and the Middle East. They pointed out the need to recognize the legitimate right of the Arab people of Palestine to self-determination and stressed their readiness to contribute in the future too to the speediest settlement of the Namibian problem within the U.N. framework.

ANNIVERSARY OF USSR-SWEDISH DIPLOMATIC TIES

PM161215 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Mar 84 First session p 4

[Article by Yu. Kuznetsov: "USSR-Sweden: Good-Neighborliness to Mutual Advantage"]

[Text] Diplomatic relations between the USSR and Sweden were established exactly 60 years ago. Our neighbor on the Baltic was one of the first states with a different social system to become aware of the historical reality of socialism and to react in a businesslike way to the initiative by the world's first homeland of workers and peasants on establishing bilateral contacts and cooperation.

Soviet-Swedish trade and economic ties had been developing entirely favorably; Sweden was the first capitalist state to start trading with our country. And at the end of the twenties, when the USSR's industrialization speeded up, Soviet-Swedish ties began to develop even more successfully. Aside from the direct benefit, consideration has been and is being given to the importance of the influence of trade and economic contacts on the depth of relations with the socialist states. A major Swedish paper, ARBETET, wrote: "It must not be forgotten that trade and technical and economic cooperation aid rapprochement between the peoples and the reduction of the danger of war breaking out."

Ever since the establishment of Soviet-Swedish diplomatic relations it has been clear that the principled policy of peace and peaceful coexistence which the Soviet state is implementing persistently and consistently meets with a lively response among the peace-loving Swedish people. The anti-imperialist, antimilitarist traits in neutral Sweden's foreign policy allow one to talk of growing similarity between our countries' approaches to a number of topical international problems -- such as questions of war and peace, the curbing of the arms race, especially nuclear arms, and the deepening of detente.

On the key question of the present-day international situation -- the prevention of nuclear war -- our Scandinavian neighbor's posture is one of active opposition to the development of dangerous military preparations in the world. To this end the Swedish leadership, in particular Prime Minister O. Palme, has put forward or supported a number of significant foreign policy initiatives.

In the first place, one should note Sweden's stance on the question of creating a nuclear-free zone in northern Europe. In summer 1981 the Riksdag (the country's parliament) decided that Sweden should contribute to the implementation of the proposal on creating a nuclear-free zone in that region and should keep in contact with the other Nordic countries to that end. As is known, the Soviet Union has supported this idea and expressed its willingness, for its part, to guarantee the zone and has also stated the USSR's readiness to consider the question of some measures, substantial ones at that, relating to its own territory adjoining the zone which would help strengthen the nuclear-free status of northern Europe.

A little over a year ago the Swedish Government put forward an initiative on creating a zone in central Europe free from battlefield nuclear weapons. It submitted this proposal on the basis of the recommendations and conclusions of the final report of the international independent commission on questions of disarmament and security headed by O. Palme. The Swedish proposal generated a widespread response in the world. It was favorably received by the majority of neutral and nonaligned states. The socialist community countries positively rated it in principle. It was only the NATO states (except for Greece) that adopted what was in effect a negative stance.

The Swedish Government made a substantial contribution to the preparation and conduct of the Conference on Confidence and Security Building Measures and Disarmament in Europe which has started in Stockholm. "Sweden for its part," Foreign Minister L. Bodstrom said, "will actively assist efforts to elaborate step by step a firm system of confidence and security measures."

The Swedish state leadership's position reflects the deep-rooted mood in the country in favor of relaxation of international tension and the concern at the threat of military confrontation. The Swedish public and many of its official representatives have invariably adopted a reasonable and sensible approach ever since the celebrated Stockholm appeal for a ban on nuclear weapons, which meant so much in peace terms, and they are noting the urgent need to develop peaceful cooperation, not armed rivalry between states.

The Swedes' constructive approach to today's acute problems and their government's official foreign policy course -- nonparticipation in alliances and consistent neutrality -- are respected and acknowledged in our country. Both sides favor the further development of Soviet-Swedish relations, including trade and economic relations.

There is no doubt that this development, which is in keeping with the interests of the Soviet and Swedish peoples, is perfectly realistic. But -- and, unfortunately, this must also be said -- both the emergence and the deepening of relations of cooperation and good-neighborliness between the Soviet Union and Sweden have caused and are causing displeasure and sometimes overt ill will among right-wing Swedish circles and especially among NATO circles in a number of North Atlantic bloc states, primarily the United States. The enemies of our good-neighborliness will find the most absurd and far-fetched excuse, such as "deliberate incursions" into Swedish territorial waters by Soviet submarines, in order to arouse Swedish hostility toward the USSR and to cast aspersions on its peace-loving foreign policy. But it is not they who determine Soviet-Swedish relations.

The six decades of interstate relations have been rich in examples demonstrating undeniably that the USSR respects Sweden's neutrality and territorial integrity and is invariably seeking stable, mutually advantageous ties. The desirability of maintaining good-neighborly relations with the Soviet Union is also indicated by many senior Swedish politicians, who urge closer political, trade and cultural exchange.

Both Sweden and the Soviet Union have wide enough favorable experience of such contacts, accumulated over long years. Both our peoples are undoubtedly interested in further strengthening good-neighborly relations and the peaceful cooperation which is so important these days.

NORWAY'S CP ON 'PROVOCATIVE' NATO EXERCISES

LD170548 Moscow TASS in English 0010 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Text] Oslo March 16 TASS -- TASS correspondent Vladimir Minkevich reports:

The landing of American, British and Dutch marines to the coast of the Norwegian fjords of Malangerfjord and Balsfjord today ushered in the main stage of the NATO military exercises "Avalanche Express" and "Team Work-84", the biggest ever in northern Norway. More than 40,000 servicemen, 150 combatant ships and more than 300 planes and helicopters from nine countries of the North Atlantic bloc are involved in the exercises. As is reported by the local press, the aim of the exercises is to test NATO's plans of transferring to Norway units of reinforcement in case of the so-called "crisis situation."

The Communist Party of Norway points to the provocative character of the yet another demonstration of the NATO's military strength. A special statement, which was adopted at the plenary meeting of the national board of the Communist Party of Norway, points out that these exercises lead to the growth of tension and undermine security in the north of Europe.

ANNIVERSARY OF SOVIET-NORWEGIAN TIES LAUDED

PM151452 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 Mar 84 First Edition p 4

[Dispatch by own correspondent M. Kostikov: "In Mutual Interests; On 60th Anniversary of Establishment of Diplomatic Relations Between the USSR and Norway"]

[Excerpts] Oslo, March -- The historical links between the Soviet and Norwegian peoples going back centuries initiate in the north where the Russians -- the coast-dwellers and people of Novgorod -- had long conducted lively trade with the Scandinavians. Relations between Russians and Norwegians have never been darkened by military conflicts. The border in the north has always been a border of peace.

In past decades the USSR's economic links with Norway have made considerable headway. Last year the volume of trade increased by over 40 percent compared with 1980 and was in excess of R180 million. In the long term its further growth is planned, including through participation in the implementation of major cooperation projects like the development of oil and gas deposits on the continental shelf in the Barents Sea. Real results are also visible in the development of scientific and technical exchange and cultural relations.

This swelling of the assets of Soviet-Norwegian relations naturally satisfies both sides. However, their volume could accord to a far greater degree with our countries' potentials.

The transatlantic opponents of Soviet-Norwegian relations are exerting restraining, adverse, influence. They are sowing the seeds of distrust and suspicion in Norway, attempting to present the USSR as a "potential aggressor." The motives for these U.S. and NATO tactics are clear. Washington would like to draw Norway into its "crusade" and to use its territory to prepare and implement adventurist U.S. plans.

"Cooperation in NATO," former Foreign Minister K. Frydenlund notes, "has become far broader and more binding than envisaged in the NATO treaty." Unfortunately, the transatlantic bigwigs' political and ideological actions hostile to the Soviet Union frequently encounter a favorable attitude from Norwegian right-wing forces and even ruling circles.

In Norway I frequently met with politicians and workers, activists of the "Norway-USSR" Friendship Society and the trade union movement, and fishermen. On each occasion, I heard them say: neither the Norwegians nor the Russians have any pretext, still less cause for mutual hostility and enmity. That is why it is essential to expand our cooperation and oppose adverse factors, my interlocutors noted.

Everything positive and mutually advantageous which has been deposited over past decades as a firm stratum in the foundation of relations of good-neighborliness and trust between the USSR and Norway has been the result of both sides' purposeful efforts. Treasuring what has been achieved and safeguarding it against any encroachments -- this approach would fully accord with the desire of the Soviet and Norwegian peoples for good-neighborliness and with the two countries' fundamental interests and would help to strengthen peace and develop international cooperation.

MOSCOW MAYOR DEPARTS FOR HELSINKI FESTIVAL

LD190744 Moscow TASS in English 0739 GMT 19 Mar 84

[Text] Moscow March 19 TASS -- A delegation of the Moscow City Council led by Vladimir Promyslov, chairman of the Council's Executive Committee left Moscow for Helsinki today to attend the festival of Moscow to be held in the capital of Finland. The festival marks the 30th anniversary of friendly ties between Helsinki and Moscow.

[Moscow TASS International Service in Russian carries an identical version of this report at 0737 GMT on 19 March. At 0817 GMT Moscow TASS International carries a one-line "kill" of the Russian item.]

ISRAEL SEEN PRESSURING LAUSANNE PARTICIPANTS

LD171123 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 16 Mar 84

[From the "Window on the Arab World" program]

[Text] The second round of the National Reconciliation Conference continues at Lausanne in Switzerland. Some progress has been achieved through bilateral consultations and general meetings. Two widely representative committees have been set up: the committee to follow up implementation of the cease-fire agreement that was reached during a general meeting, and the committee on constitutional affairs, whose task is to lay down the principles on the basis of which the unified Lebanese state will be created.

In Lebanon itself, all eyes are focused on the Lausanne conference. Rashid as-Sulh, a former Lebanese prime minister, has issued a statement saying that the Lebanese people expect the conference to adopt resolutions permitting the settlement of the basic issues of the country and putting an end to 9 years of suffering and human sacrifice, for the sake of ensuring a secure life for future generations.

It must be stated that the Lausanne conference is taking place under extremely difficult conditions: The Israeli invaders have noticeably increased their activities in southern Lebanon. With the start of the Lausanne conference, the invaders are clearly seeking to pressure the participants in it to prevent them from taking decisions unwelcome to Israel.

The information media point out that several representatives from the Israeli Foreign Ministry and intelligence departments have come to Lausanne. These include Gur, head of the Middle East desk at the Israeli Foreign Ministry. They have also been trying to influence the work of the conference.

Sources close to the Lausanne conference say that the conference is expected to consider its final communique on Saturday.

BOVIN ANALYZES SITUATION IN LEBANON, LAUSANNE

LD190313 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1500 GMT 18 Mar 84

[From the "International Panorama" program presented by Aleksandr Bovin]

[Text] In Lausanne, as you know, the second phase of the Lebanese National Reconciliation Conference is underway. Represented there are the leaders of the largest communities in the country. Present as observers are Khaddam, the Syrian vice president, and envoy from Saudi Arabia. The situation is tense, everyone is full of skepticism, distrust, and suspiciousness of each other. However, they must talk, they must reach agreement, or else there will be chaos and the disintegration of Lebanon.

The first decision was a cease-fire agreement. Incidentally, this is the 180th cease-fire agreement in the 9 years of the civil war in Lebanon. [passage indistinct] They also agreed on the release of all prisoners of war. Then they moved on to other issues: reorganization of political institutions, forming a new government. The Front for National Salvation demands that the confessional system be abolished -- that is, the system of allocating state jobs according to religious denomination. On the other hand, the right-wing Christian forces demand first of all a withdrawal of the foreign troops of Syria and Israel.

On the issue of reforms Sham'un and Pierre al-Jumayyil are against the abolition of this confessional system. They insist that Lebanon should be cantonized according to the Swiss model -- i.e., alongside the central government, self-government bodies should be created for each community and given broad powers. For the progressive national forces this system of "community apartheid" -- as Junblatt called it -- is unacceptable. President Al-Jumayyil presented a synthetic, compromise variant but it did not find full support. In general, though, it is clear to all that a mutually acceptable solution may only be based on a compromise.

Syria is playing an active part in the conference. It is in Syria's interests to have a stable and peaceful Lebanon next door, and a Lebanon that will take its place in the common struggle of the Arabs against the interventionist policy of Israel. Therefore, Syria will hardly support any extreme points of view that would corner any one of the sides in the conflict.

Amin al-Jumayyil, the current president of Lebanon, said in Lausanne: I am convinced that President Al-Asad of Syria, whom I last met in an atmosphere of frankness, mutual understanding and awareness of responsibility, will put his authority behind Lebanon's attempt to gain stability.

Yes, the week in Lausanne was difficult. The knot of contradictions is tied rather too tightly. There are too many mutually exclusive ambitions. Should no solution be found, then the question of UN involvement will certainly be raised again. Indeed, the experience in this respect can hardly be called successful. Here is what our correspondent Andrey Popov reports:

[Begin Popov video recording] The withdrawal of the U.S. Marines from Lebanon was completed by the end of February, and they were deployed on board the U.S. 6th Fleet vessels. In consequence, the disposition of forces in Lebanon changed significantly. To this must be added the fact that the other military formations of the Multinational Forces -- the British, Italian, and also the French forces -- returned to their own countries. In this situation the French proposed that a UN military force be deployed in Lebanon. This project -- widely advertised at the United Nations for familiarization and discussion. Those taking part in the discussion turned their attention to the statement of the Soviet Union on this matter. This statement said quite clearly that before sending a UN expeditionary force to Lebanon, it was necessary to end the U.S. interference in the internal affairs of that country and to remove the U.S. fleet from the Lebanese coast. However, the United States stated that it would not do that insofar as Lebanon -- like the whole of the Near East -- is part of the zone of U.S. vital interests. Then the Soviet Union used its right of veto over the French draft resolution, since this draft did not contain a clause on ending the shelling by the U.S. vessels.

This Soviet stance received a positive response in all of Lebanon. It was reported in the Lebanese papers and on the radio and television.

Probably not all our television viewers know that there have been UN troops in southern Lebanon for several years. We visited the headquarters of the UN troops in the town An-Naqurah and the positions of the Irish UNIFIL battalion, which is part of the UN expeditionary force in Lebanon. They patrol areas in southern Lebanon, and assist the local population in solving many vital matters. We were told that in case of any incidents, the military doctors of the UN force give medical assistance as necessary. At the same time, during the 1982 aggression, when Israeli tanks and aircraft fired thousands of shells and dropped thousands of bombs on the Lebanese capitol when they killed our wounded thousands of Lebanese and Palestinians, the UN expeditionary force was unable to put up any resistance against the aggressor.

Furthermore, the Israeli command declared -- certain of the full assistance and backing of the United States -- that should the UN force try to stand in the way of the Israeli army, it would be wiped out and destroyed. So now southern Lebanon is under Israeli occupation. Daily the Israelis conduct mass searches and arrests of civilians. Those who oppose terror and oppression are tortured and their homes are blown up, leaving their children without shelter.

Israeli troops move freely in territories controlled by UN forces. It is only natural to ask: In the present circumstances -- when southern Lebanon is occupied by Israel and the U.S. 6th Fleet is expanding the aggression against the country -- is the UN force able to fulfill its duties? As time will prove, peace in Lebanon will only be resorted through a political solution, through dialogue among all contending sides, and not by using foreign military forces. [end videorecording]

That is true, of course. Only a solution found by the conflicting parties themselves can be lasting. I repeat, though, that it is extremely difficult to find such a solution. In addition to the internal obstacles, there are external ones, too. Israeli is playing a negative role. For Israel a stable Lebanon is acceptable only as a pro-Israeli and pro-American Lebanon. If not, then Israel would prefer to see a civil war there. It then would be simpler to find a foothold, assimilate, and remain in occupied Lebanese territory. The U.S. naval vessels also remain close to the Lebanese shores, just in case, so to speak. Now Washington blames Syria for everything.

At the same time Washington has started searching Syria for new strategic reference points. The target now is Jordan. This is Reagan's line of reasoning. Today Jordan is of vital importance for the peace process. It is for this reason that Syria is the opponent of Jordan, as well as of Israel. For this reason Jordan encounters military threats and terrorist attacks. Insofar as Jordan's security is of vital importance to the whole region, our giving assistance to Jordan is in the strategic interests of America and, I would say, the strategic interests of Israel.

By threatening Jordan, Reagan wanted to force it to sit down for talks with Israel. This is the immediate objective. In the long term there is the goal of a coalition among Jordan, Saudi Arabia, and Egypt, as a counterbalance to the radical Arab regimes and also as yet another U.S. strategic stronghold, in addition to Israel, in the Near East.

However, Jordan is in no hurry to swallow the U.S. bait. As already reported, the king of Jordan rejected the possibility of holding direct talks with Israel at the present time. He stated that the United States has lost the status of a great power and the right to speak as moral defender of the whole world. The United States no longer keeps its word or carries out its promises. The United States is only able to act within the limits permitted by the Zionists and Israel. What distresses me most, the king said, is that having always believed we shared common values and principles, I now realize the United States does not care about these principles. That is what he said.

But, returning to the subject of Lebanon, I would like to express the hope that, despite all the internal and external obstacles, the Lebanese will soon manage to extricate themselves from the quagmire of bloody internal fighting; though, frankly speaking, there is little hope of that. Well, we will see what happens.

IRAQ'S RAMADAN, RYABOV DISCUSS ECONOMIC TIES

PM161149 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 Mar 84 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Ties Strengthen"]

[Text] Baghdad, 15 Mar -- T.Y. Ramadan, Iraq's first deputy prime minister, received Ya.P. Ryabov, chairman of the USSR State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations, who heads the Soviet part of the Soviet-Iraqi standing Commission on Economic, Scientific, and Technical Cooperation, the 14th session of which is being held in Iraq's capital.

Ways of further developing economic, trade, scientific, and technical ties between the two countries were discussed.

USSR-IRAQ JOINT ECONOMIC COMMISSION MEETS

'Good Prospects'

LD170440 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0905 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Text] Baghdad, 16 March (TASS) -- By TASS correspondent A. Ostalskiy -- The USSR and Iraq are celebrating a notable date in the history of their relations: the 25th anniversary of the signing of the first Soviet-Iraqi agreement on economic and technical cooperation. This document, which was signed on 16 March 1959, laid the foundation of relations of friendship and cooperation between the two countries and peoples and opened the way to the development of broad economic relations based on mutual benefit and equality of rights. The Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation, which was concluded between the two states in 1972, created an even more lasting basis for the further development of Soviet-Iraqi relations, including in the economic field.

For a quarter of a century, Soviet-Iraqi economic, scientific-technical, and trade cooperation has become an important factor in strengthening Iraq's independence and accelerating its socioeconomic progress. It has embraced all the vitally important branches of the economy, including heavy and light industry, power engineering, and agriculture.

It is difficult to overestimate the significance of cooperation between the USSR and Iraq in developing the country's main wealth: oil, which was wrested from the hands of foreign monopolies in 1972. The USSR's assistance in developing the major deposit of northern Rumelia facilitated in many ways the establishing and successful development of Iraq's national oil industry. An agreement on the comprehensive development of another long-term deposit, that of western Al-Qurnah, was recently signed between the two countries in Baghdad.

Nearly one-half of Iraq's requirement of electricity is provided by the power station in An-Nasiriyah and the Dukan hydroelectric station, which are among Soviet-Iraqi cooperation projects of which there are now about a hundred. These also include the unique Tigris-Euphrates and Kirkuk-Adhaim canals. The Soviet Union renders great assistance to Iraq in training national cadres as well.

There are good prospects for the further development and broadening of Soviet-Iraqi cooperation. This is shown by the successful work in Baghdad of the permanent Soviet-Iraqi Commission for Economic, Scientific, and Technical Cooperation. As the Iraqi press notes, the work of the commission is undoubtedly making an important contribution to the further strengthening of friendly relations between the two countries.

Cooperation Protocol Signed

LD181907 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1730 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Text] The 14th session of the permanent Soviet-Iraqi Commission for Economic, Scientific, and Technical Cooperation has concluded its work in Baghdad. A protocol, signed on the results of the session, has defined the basic directions of the further development of mutually advantageous cooperation of the two countries in various spheres.

Technical Cooperation Viewed

PM161328 [Editorial Report] Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian on 16 March publishes on page 3 a 650-word A. Dvornikov article entitled "A Friend's Assistance." It is pegged to the 25th anniversary of the first agreement on economic and technical cooperation between the USSR and Iraq and focuses attention on Soviet assistance in developing Iraq's oil industry, pointing out that "the Iraqi leaders have repeatedly emphasized that the comprehensive aid and assistance to Iraq by the Soviet Union and the other CEMA countries is one of the most important conditions for the successful implementation of the national oil policy."

After noting Soviet assistance in training Iraqi petroleum engineers, the article concludes as follows: "There is no doubt that the relations of firm friendship and multifaceted cooperation that have taken shape between the Soviet Union and the Republic of Iraq will develop invariably in the name of peace and in the interests of social progress."

SYRIAN MEDIA HAIL RESULTS OF ALIYEV VISIT

PM171452 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Mar 84 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Important Landmark"]

[Text] Damascus, 15 Mar -- The Syrian public and the country's mass media rate highly the results of the working visit to Syria by G.A. Aliyev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers. The press, radio, and television point out that the talks between the high-ranking Soviet visitor and Syrian leaders have become a new important landmark on the path of further deepening and strengthening the relations of friendship and cooperation between Syria and the USSR.

This visit, the newspaper ATH-THAWRAH emphasizes, has helped to expand the ties of business and friendship between the two countries and has confirmed the durability and immense significance of the Soviet-Syrian Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation. With the USSR's economic aid and scientific and technical assistance, and thanks to fruitful and mutually beneficial bilateral cooperation, Syria has achieved major successes in industry, agriculture, and other fields.

The USSR, the newspaper AL-BA'TH notes, invariably supports the Arab peoples' just struggle for their legitimate national rights and firmly repulses U.S. neocolonialism. The Soviet and Syrian peoples' identity of aims and interests is based on the common principles of their struggle against imperialism, Zionism, and reaction and in favor of peace and social progress.

Washington's gamble on undermining Arab-Soviet friendship in general and Soviet-Syrian friendship in particular, the newspaper TISHRIN states, has met with complete failure.

Soviet support is a most important factor in reinforcing the steadfastness of the Arab countries and peoples engaged in the struggle against the intrigues of the United States and its allies. The newspaper stresses that the USSR has been and remains a loyal friend and ally of Syria and a bulwark of the whole world wide national liberation movement. The Syrian press expresses its profound gratitude to the Soviet Union for its effective assistance to Syria in strengthening its defense capability in the face of Israeli aggression and threats of imperialist interference.

The Soviet Union's peace-loving foreign policy and its efforts directed toward removing the threat of war from mankind and curbing the nuclear arms race, a Damascus television commentary states, enjoy the Syrian's people's complete support.

The course of strengthening friendship and cooperation with the USSR, Syrian radio emphasizes, serves the strategic goals and interests of Syria and all the Arab countries. The radio points out in this regard that G. A. Aliyev's visit has opened up a new page in the history of friendly relations between the two countries and has helped to further develop and strengthen understanding between Syria and the USSR.

'SENSELESS,' 'UNREASONABLE' GULF WAR SPURNED

PM161334 Moscow MOSCOW NEWS in English No 10, 11 Mar 84 (Signed to Press 6 Mar 84) p 6

[Vladimir Gurev article: "A War Without Winners"]

[Text] A new outbreak of frenzied hostilities has occurred along a 300 km stretch of the Iran-Iraq border northeast of the Iraqi town of Basrah. Having massed in this sector troops and "Islamic revolutionary guards" numbering in total several hundred thousand men, Iran launched a large-scale offensive in several directions aiming to cut transport communications linking the south of Iraq to Baghdad. Another theatre of operations is opened on a vast marshy area on the border between the two countries known as the region of the so-called swamp Arabs where large oil deposits have been discovered. At the same time artillery shelling of villages and towns became more frequent on both sides causing heavy casualties among the civilian population.

The Iranian mass media presents this offensive operation as a decisive stage in the fighting "towards the victorious end" against Iraq. As it has been announced by official Iranian representatives, the last days of the war are approaching, as a result of which "the Iraqi regime will be deposed," and "Iraq will become an Islamic country governed by the people."

It should be made clear, however, that there can be no winners in the bloodshed which has acquired the name of a "senseless," and "unreasonable" war, no matter in whose favour the balance is tipped on the battlefield. Both for the Iranian and the Iraqi people it results in equally bad hardships and deprivations. Post-World-War-II history has not known any armed conflict between developing countries, which would be equal to this war, with so many human lives lost and so much destruction of material values, estimated to be scores, or even hundreds, of billions of dollars. Both countries are forced to spend large resources for military purposes while they are so badly needed for economic progress and for improving the population's living standard.

In Iran, a wave of nationalist frenzy has arisen and is being worked up even more by its ruling circles and accompanied by a campaign of cruel persecution of "dissidents." Democratic elements have fallen the main victims, primarily Tudeh Party members who made a heroic contribution towards the fight against the reactionary regime of the shah.

Against the background of the aggravated situation caused by the activation of the hostilities and spreading of them over to the Persian Gulf, preparations are being made in the USA and in other NATO countries to intervene directly by building up military presence in the region, which is unjustified as it is. A pretext for military interference is the alleged necessity to safeguard the freedom of international navigation in the Persian Gulf, where important oil communications pass, as well as the defense of the interests and security of the coastal states.

Washington's "touching" care of the Arab countries' interests is vividly exemplified by Lebanon where the American military shelled civilians from the New Jersey battleship's main battery guns. In the Persian Gulf a similar role has been allotted to the Midway aircraft carrier and other US warships that have arrived there, as well as to the British warships with the Marines on board. Just like in other parts of the world, the Americans are clamouring for one thing -- to break somebody else's door down in order to dictate their will to people, to support with muscles their claims for hegemony and control over the natural resources of independent states. The USA is interested in weakening both Iraq and Iran, in undermining the anti-imperialist forces in the Middle and Near East. Taking advantage of the conflict, it tries to create favourable conditions for pushing forward its separatist plans for the Middle East, for escalating the U.S.-Israeli expansion in the Middle East in order to make and broaden the rift among the Arab countries, some of which support Iraq and some -- Iran.

The need to safeguard the sovereign rights of the people in the Near and Middle East, the national interests of Iraq and Iran, urgently require that the dangerous source of tension in the region be wiped out, not allowing it to be used by alien forces that are hostile towards them. Possible frameworks and ways of stopping the conflict have been set out in the well-known UN Security Council resolution concerning this matter, in the proposals of the mediatory missions of various countries, who several times attempted to bring the belligerents to come to an agreement.

PRESIDIUM, KUWAITI AMIR EXCHANGE CABLES

PM121201 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 9 Mar 84 Morning Edition p 3

[TASS report: "On the National Holiday"]

[Text] The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has sent a telegram to Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah, amir of the State of Kuwait, which congratulated the amir and the Kuwaiti people on the country's national holiday and conveyed its wishes for the well-being and prosperity of the Kuwaiti people.

We express our confidence, the telegram points out, that the friendly relations between the two countries will be further developed to the benefit of the Soviet and Kuwaiti peoples and in the interests of establishing a just and lasting peace in the Near East.

In a reply telegram that amir of Kuwait, on behalf of the Kuwaiti people and on his own behalf, expressed his gratitude to the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the friendly Soviet people for their warm sentiments.

I would like to take this opportunity, the telegram says, to make a high assessment of the relations of friendship and cooperation which link our peoples and serve the interests of Kuwait and the Soviet Union and the cause of peace and security worldwide.

BOVIN ON MOZAMBIQUE-RSA NONAGGRESSION TREATY

LD182247 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1500 GMT 18 Mar 84

[From the "International Panorama" program, presented by Aleksandr Bovin]

[Text] Hello, comrades! The day before yesterday, on the border between Mozambique and the Republic of South Africa (RSA), representatives of the two states signed a treaty on nonaggression and good-neighborliness. The newspaper NOTICIAS, published in Maputo, called this a fundamental step in the process of establishing good-neighborly relations between the RSA and the People's Republic of Mozambique. According to Chissano, Mozambique's foreign minister, the treaty puts an end to the use of force as a means of settling conflicts between the states, which should not serve as bases for subversive activities.

What does this mean, specifically? Neither the RSA nor Mozambique will permit any forces to use bases on their territory for aggression and violence against the other side. Both states also pledge not to use the territory of third countries for this, either. Or let us say it more specifically: Mozambique has pledged to ban the African National Congress (ANC), which is waging a struggle against the RSA regime, from using Mozambique territory as a bridgehead for carrying out military operations against the RSA. For its part, the RSA has promised to put a similar ban on the activities of the so-called Mozambique National Resistance. The agreement is to be monitored by a joint security commission. Such is the treaty.

A month ago in Lusaka, capital of Zambia, as a result of a meeting between representatives of the RSA, Angola, and the United States, it was decided to create a joint commission -- that is, Angola, the RSA, and six Americans -- to observe the disengagement of troops in the region of the Angolan-Namibian frontier. During the withdrawal of RSA troops, Angola agreed to restrict South-West African People's Organization (SWAPO) actions on its territory, and to prolong these restrictions if Resolution No 435 on Namibia is fulfilled.

Of course, comrades, you understand that the matter is not one of ordinary agreements; it is a matter of an intention to form a new political situation in southern Africa. In the West, and especially in the United States and RSA, what has happened is viewed as a major victory for Pretoria, which, using its economic and military superiority, has managed to impose agreements advantageous to the RSA upon Angola and Mozambique. It is noted that these agreements will strengthen the RSA's international position, and will reduce pressure on it from black Africa. The victory trumpets are sounding in Washington as well. At last, there is something more pleasant than Lebanon or, for instance, El Salvador to talk about. Reagan can happily put the peace-making in southern Africa onto his side of the election scales, viewing it as a consequence of the activities of U.S. diplomacy.

Naturally, these events are explained and described from a different angle in Luanda and Maputo. There, the issue is posed thus: The chief aim of the strategy of destabilization conducted by the RSA, using both its Army and armed formations of rebels, has been to force Frelimo, Mozambique's ruling party, to give up its socialist orientation, and also to impose a compromise with the UNITA grouping on the Angolan leadership. Neither has been successful, military methods have not worked, the burden of military expenditure has become heavier and heavier, and the RSA has had to retreat and seek political solutions. The Angolan and Mozambique newspapers are writing in the same direction -- pressure of world public opinion, plus U.S. diplomacy, which badly needed some success on the eve of the elections, have had their effect.

From the point of view of Angola and Mozambique, the chief gain is the opportunity to get on with their internal affairs in peace, and first and foremost with their economies. For that, an end must be put to the rebel formations. In Luanda and Maputo it is reckoned that the breaking of ties between the rebels and the RSA will make resolution of this task easier.

The RSA sees an advantage in that first, the bases of the national liberation movements situated on its neighbors' territory are blocked off, and second, and probably chiefly, the RSA comes out of quarantine, breaking through the cordon of the frontline states.

As far as the SWAPO and ANC national liberation movements are concerned, their situation, for understandable reasons, becomes more complicated. They are to a large extent deprived of their rear.

Finally, they are saying in Luanda and Maputo that the struggle against apartheid will continue, and that political, diplomatic, and moral support will be given to both SWAPO and the ANC, but only within a framework of peaceful coexistence with the RSA.

That is how things stand today. The time has not yet come for more or less firm conclusions, since there is a lot that is not clear, or is unsteady and changeable, in the situation. In my opinion, Sam Nujoma, the SWAPO leader, was right when he said this recently: There can be no sincerity of the part of the RSA. Acting in the role of peacemaker, it wants to distract the attention of the world public. The facts from recent days confirm this judgment. By all accounts, the RSA does not intend to reduce its help for National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA), nor to implement Resolution 435 on Namibia. Last Sunday the RSA Government proposed a conference on Namibia, to include the RSA, Angola, SWAPO, the the UNITA group, and the so-called multiparty conference, that is, the seven Namibian puppet parties that the RSA sees as a political alternative to SWAPO. The idea is to avoid direct talks with SWAPO and to weaken Luanda's position by legalizing UNITA. Angola quickly and sharply rejected this proposal, pointing out that it threatens to undermine the process of settlement that has started. The Americans cautiously supported the RSA's proposal. Well, they, the Americans, are also far from being a model of sincerity. In words, they would seem to be concerned about the interests of Luanda, of Angola, but in fact they are concerned with something else. Francisco Lubota, head of the Front for the Liberation of the Cabinda Enclave (FLEC) rebel group, which wants to have the oil-rich province of Cabinda separated from Angola, recently visited the United States. Savimbi's permanent mission has been in operation for a long time in the States. Holden Roberto, requesting expansion of support, is also in the United States. In general, the chief task for both the RSA and the United States is to maintain the stability of the South African regime, and it is precisely to that task that everything is subordinated, including the nature of relations with neighbors.

Now, two more general remarks. One cannot find a solution to the problems in southern Africa along the line of improving relations between states, because the roots of these problems are in the preservation of the racist regime in the RSA, and as long as it continues to exist there will be no peace there. The patriots of Namibia and the RSA will not lay down their arms. Further, it is of course naive to think that the policy of destabilization being conducted by the RSA can be stopped by treaties and agreements. The methods will change, but the essence will remain as before. Along all lines -- the economic, political and other lines -- the RSA, with the help of the United States, with the (?full) understanding of the United States, will strive to render its neighbors harmless, to soften their policy, and to change their orientation radically. That is the harsh reality.

NUJOMA FIDELITY TO SWAPO IDEALS ENCOURAGED

LD170057 Moscow in English to Africa 1700 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Text] The South African and Western media are praising to the skies the so-called new initiatives of the Pretoria authorities to resolve the problem of Namibia. These boil down to South Africa having invited all the so-called interested sides to the conference table on the future of Namibia. These interested parties it has named include the South African occupation administration, the domestic puppet parties of Namibia, the counterrevolutionary Angolan bands of UNITA on the one hand and on the other the South-West Africa People's Organization, SWAPO, and the Angolan Government. Here's what commentator Aleksandr Belkin writes in this respect:

Talks are useful things especially if they are aimed at resolving pressing problems. Who is against peace and tranquility prevailing in southern Africa? This is something that millions of people living in southern Africa who have been tortured by the constant wars conducted by Pretoria in recent years are dreaming of. And it's also obvious that the granting of independence to Namibia accords not only with the interests of the people of that country. The fight to liberate Namibia has become a major objective of the Organization of African Unity, of the United Nations and of the whole world community. However when we closely examine the so-called fresh proposals advanced by South Africa we see that we cannot satisfy the truly interested sides.

Why? Let's consider that. Who are the sides really interested in the Namibian problem? Undoubtedly, the Namibian people and their sole legitimate representative, SWAPO. This has been repeatedly confirmed by the United Nations in many resolutions. On the other hand, you have the occupation forces of South Africa, that more correctly should be called an uninterested side, as for over the years they have been trying to obstruct the granting of independence to Namibia. And what about the so-called domestic parties in Namibia, which are only a cover up for the occupation authorities? Or take the UNITA bands which are related to Namibia only by their bases being situated on the territory of the country.

It seems to me that this peculiar expansion of the circle of interested sides by Pretoria is extremely complicating progress toward a true solution of the problem. Secondly, what is Pretoria really intending to discuss at the conference table? The plan to grant Namibia independence, known as the UN Resolution No 435? South Africa does not say anything about this resolution and apparently intends to ignore it. For Resolution 435 does not appear in any of Pretoria's statements regarding its so-called new initiatives. So this resolution is not to be discussed and therefore not to be implemented. This is not surprising, for the objectives of the apartheid regime have not changed, and its substance has not changed either. The only new thing that has come about is that the peoples of southern Africa are increasingly making the Pretoria leaders aware of the fact that they are not functioning in a vacuum but have to take account of the realities of the present state of affairs, and one of these realities is that the countries of independent Africa are flexing their muscles. And this is something that Pretoria cannot ignore anymore.

Whereas formerly the South African regime was able not to notice, not to take account of the interests of its neighbors, today we hear of talks to which Pretoria has been forced to agree to with the governments of Luanda and Maputo. Is this not recognition of the prestige and role of these young states of southern Africa? This I believe equally holds true for Pretoria ignoring SWAPO. Perhaps South Africa will advance many more so-called initiatives aimed as before at obstructing a solution to the Namibian problem. But truth will out nevertheless. Genuine talks on the destiny of Namibia, precisely on ways and means of implementing UN Resolution No 435, will have to be held by South Africa and with the participation of SWAPO too.

And this is why I believe the decision of SWAPO President Sam Nujoma not to take part in the so-called fresh initiative by Pretoria on Namibia to be quite correct. The determination expressed by SWAPO to continue its armed struggle until final victory over the invaders bears witness to SWAPO's complete fidelity to its ideals for genuine independence for Namibia.

U.S. SUPPORT OF ANGOLAN, MOZAMBIQUE 'GANGS' HIT

LD172139 Moscow TASS in English 1920 GMT 17 Mar 84

["The Seamy Side of U.S. 'Peace-Making'" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow March 17 TASS -- TASS political news analyst Sergey Kulik writes:

While American propaganda is loudly advertising some "peace-making efforts" of the United States in southern Africa and the "readiness" of the White House to give aid to Mozambique and Angola, which have long been a target of acts of sabotage and aggression by the Republic of South Africa, they in Washington are giving a warm reception to the heads of the terrorist gangs, which entrenched themselves in Angola and Mozambique.

Following the countless "private" visits of high-ranking cutthroats from UNITA [National Union for Total Independence of Angola], Holden Roberto, the head of FNLA [Angolan National Liberation Front], another anti-Angolan grouping, has spent more than two months on the banks of the Potomac. Sepaking in an interview with a correspondent of the Johannesburg FINANCIAL TIMES, he bluntly admitted that he had visited the USA to get "weapons and other aid." There have also been reports in the Western press about an agreement reached not without the CIA assistance on "joint operations" by UNITA and FNLA against the Angolan Government. If difficulties arise in the use of the Namibian territory as a springboard for anti-Angolan operations, they will be carried out from Zaire, the British newspaper GUARDIAN said. Bases of mercenaries are being set up with the assistance of American advisers along the northern borders of the People's Republic of Angola, and equipment and munitions are airlifted to them in the planes granted by the United States.

While preparing another stab in the back of People's Angola, the CIA generals have opened the doors of U.S. Government institutions to another enemy of the Angolan people Francisco Lubota, the leader of the separatist FLEC [Front for the Liberation of the Cabinda Enclave], who seeks secession of the oil-rich Cabinda Province from the People's Republic of Angola. The interest shown in Washington in this puppet has been assessed by many political observers as evidence of the fact that they in the White House have not given up their own plans of severing oilfields from Angola. "We wish to separate from Angola and create in Cabinda a small pro-Western state," said F. Lubota, who is notorious as a paid agent of the United States secret services.

They in Washington have also shown special interest in Mozambican counter-revolutionaries. The USA has been recently visited by A. Fernandes, one of the leaders of "Mozambique National Resistance" who is seeking the overthrow of the Government of the People's Republic of Angola [as received]. The subversive actions by that organization, which are inspired and financed by the secret services of the United States and the Republic of South Africa have already cost Mozambique's economy almost four billion dollars. Nowadays the new-baked American "friends" of Mozambique are preparing a fresh far-reaching act of sabotage against the economy of the People's Republic of Mozambique.

While promising that country loans and credits, and advertising benefits from "cooperation" with South Africa, the American press demands from the government of the Frelimo [Mozambique Liberation Front] Party that it give up government control of industry and agriculture and give "special rights" to foreign big business. Apparently, behind Washington's verbiage about its "desire for peace" in southern Africa and "America's wish to ensure an improvement in the economy of the African countries" are plans for destabilizing the positions in the progressive states and that region and effecting a change in their policy.

This has been admitted, in particular, by U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs Chester Crocker who said in a WASHINGTON TIMES interview that the main aim of the United States is to ensure a change in the political orientation of the states of the south African region, a return to the situation when they played the role of the West's partners.

USSR-ANGOLA HEALTH CARE COOPERATION VIEWED

PM161013 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 15 Mar 84 Morning Edition p 5

[Interview with S.P. Burenkov, USSR minister of health, by own correspondent S. Nikonov under the rubric "IZVESTIYA's Interview": "Mission of Honor" -- first paragraph is author's introduction]

[Text] Luanda -- S.P. Burenkov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Supreme Soviet deputy, and USSR minister of health, who is heading a USSR Ministry of Health delegation, told your correspondent about the cooperation between the USSR and Angolan Ministries of Health.

The Soviet delegation arrived in Angola with the aim of strengthening friendly ties with Angolan colleagues in the sphere of health care and medical science. During our stay in Angola the results of cooperation will be summed up and new concrete prospects outlined for deepening and expanding it. During the talks with our Angolan comrades we are discussing questions of Soviet participation in training Angolan cadres, raising their qualifications, promoting the development of Angola's health care system, and working jointly to create new medical institutions in Angola and equip them with the necessary medical apparatus. The questions of the treatment and prevention of still prevalent infectious diseases and problems linked with the health care of children, which is seen in Angola as the most important state task, were also touched upon.

More than 150 Soviet doctors are currently working in Angola, in 20 hospitals in the republic's 7 provinces. According to the assessment of Angolan specialists, our white-coated envoys carrying out great and useful work here enjoy deserved prestige among the local population. This above all explains the fact that the Angolan side is asking us to increase the detachment of Soviet medics, supplementing it with pediatricians, surgeons, traumatologists, and other specialists. In short, Comrade Burenkov said in conclusion, in our opinion, which is fully shared by our Angolan colleagues, there are good prospects for joint work between USSR and Angolan doctors for the benefit of the Angolan people.

INSTITUTE DIRECTOR VIEWS LATIN AMERICA SCENE

PM171613 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 Mar 84 Morning Edition p 5

[Article by Doctor of Economic Sciences Professor V. Volskiy, director of the USSR Academy of Sciences Latin America Institute: "Hopes and Fears of the Seething Continent"]

[Text] Whenever there is talk of Latin American affairs people usually have in mind above all the Central American problem, which now, after the U.S. invasion of Grenada, has become particularly acute. The situation in Central America has indeed become extremely dangerous and fraught with far-reaching consequences not only for the peoples of the region, but also for world peace.

This situation did not arise suddenly. We can be said to be talking about the age-old oppression of the Central American countries by U.S. imperialism. The sundry fabrications of U.S. propaganda that the situation in Nicaragua, El Salvador, and other of the region's countries are the handiwork of "subversive elements linked with Moscow and Havana" are thus just simply slander and lies.

Moreover, people in Washington are well aware that they are lies. Maybe they have forgotten that in 1912, even before the Soviet Union and, still more so, revolutionary Cuba had emerged, the Nicaraguan people rose up in the first uprising against the U.S. occupation of their country. History also retains the memory of how for 24 years the U.S. Army held sway in Nicaragua, perpetrated acts of lawlessness and tyranny, burned entire villages, and wiped out patriots. Back then in 1927 the Nicaraguans, who, headed by Augusto Cesar Sandino, had started to combat the occupiers, had nobody to help them. And yet in 1933 the army of Sandino -- the "general of free men" -- succeeded in expelling the U.S. invaders from their land. One wonders what "subversive actions" explained it away in those days.

Last summer an international conference convened by the Socialist International was held in The Hague devoted to the options for Central American development. All of its participants (mainly people extremely far removed from communism) arrived at the unanimous opinion that the current crisis in this region of the world has not been caused by "the export of revolution" but by the profound social injustice existing in these countries, the domination and despotism of the transnational corporations in their economies, and the discriminatory U.S. policy in relation to the Central American countries.

Thus, neither in the past nor in the present is it a question of "subversive activity". The crux is that the current struggle of the Central American peoples is posing very acutely the question of the independent development, and one could even say the survival, of these small countries. The U.S. empire has staked its claim to neocolonialist rule in this part of the world. It is precisely this that explains the acuteness of the Central America conflict.

Today, after the treacherous aggression in Grenada, U.S. internationalist activity is spearheaded against Nicaragua. The attack on the Nicaraguan revolution is being conducted under the flag of "defending democracy and pluralism." Washington alleges that the Sandinista government has broken the promises it made to the people and the world community in the years of the struggle against the Somoza regime and has established a "Marxist dictatorship" in the country. This is yet another brazen lie meant to cover preparations for U.S. aggression.

In the 5 years since the fall of the Somoza dictatorship Nicaragua's people have managed to achieve outstanding successes in building a new life.

Despite a virtual state of war and the economic blockade imposed by the United States, Nicaraguans are moving forward along the road of restoring and developing their country's economy. And this, after all, is happening at a time when virtually all Latin America is in the grip of a severe economic crisis and certain of the continent's major states have declared themselves insolvent. Some 20 percent of all Nicaraguans have started to receive an education -- that would have been inconceivable under the Somoza regime. In the 5 years since the fall of the Somoza dictatorship the potential of health care, science, and culture has grown immeasurably, and access to them is open to all Nicaraguans. A whole string of, for Central America, truly revolutionary legislative enactments have been adopted: a just agrarian reform and laws on labor and social security. The entire world knows about these achievements of the Nicaraguan people in their selfless struggle for their nation's progress.

I have visited Nicaragua several times since the victory of the revolution. I saw with my own eyes what an extensive democracy this country's population enjoys. The citizens have a multitude of opportunities for participating in the resolution of the most important questions in the state's life: the municipalities, the neighborhood "neighbors committees," and the committees on eradicating illiteracy work actively; and the trade union movement has assumed an unprecedented scale. There is the broadest exchange of opinions at mass meetings and rallies and complete freedom of criticism in all its forms exists in the country. Nicaragua's government has announced that general elections will be held this year on the basis of the recently adopted electoral legislation.

What kind of "democracy" does Washington talk about? Perhaps the American "shop window for democracy" is the Duvalier dynasty in Haiti, which the United States has been backing for 40 years now? Or the fascist dictator Pinochet, whom they planted in Chile? It is not for reasons of "pluralism" that Nicaragua's Government does not suit the U.S. Administration, but because it is a patriotic government. The United States would like to see in this country a "democracy" that would destroy Nicaragua's independence and hand it over to U.S. gauleiters such as Somoza. In this complex situation the Nicaraguan revolutionaries are doing everything possible for a peaceful settlement to Central American conflicts. Washington, striving to torpedo by any means the attempts to reach agreement, adheres to a diametrically opposed strategy.

Instead, the United States sets great store by force and money. It uses both these means in Central America: To create force it allocates money, and to create excuses for new injections of dollars for their puppets it resorts to violence. "Kill or buy" is in essence the thinking behind the recommendations worked out by the so-called U.S. National Commission on Central America headed by ex-Secretary of State Henry Kissinger. The commission's recently published report contained essentially nothing new apart from a fabulous increase in the figures for military and financial handouts to the region's pro-American regimes.

The United States also refuses to leave in peace the Republic of Cuba, which is being subjected to a military blockade and military threats. But Washington's anti-Cuban designs are inevitably doomed to failure. International solidarity with the island of freedom strengthens from day to day. "The Cuban people," K.U. Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, stated in his speech at his meeting with voters, "resolutely supports the fraternal socialist states. As for the USSR it has been, is, and will continue to be with Cuba through thick and thin."

In the situation that has emerged a great deal will depend on the people's actions. And not only the peoples of Central America, but also the people of the United States. Washington is encountering mounting opposition to its policy of intervention and diktat not only among the population but in Congress too.

At a time when a record number of Americans are out of work what sober-minded person would agree to spending billions of dollars on preparing for a war in direct proximity to U.S. borders and, consequently, on seeing hundreds of new coffins of American guys?

The keen struggle of the forces of independence and democracy against the policy of enslavement and aggression is not confined to the framework of the Central American region. Virtually all the governments of the Latin American countries realize that the destruction of Grenada's sovereignty is a precedent that the United States might extend to any country of the continent. However, the facts show that the peoples of the Latin American countries have no intention of capitulating to this threat.

This is particularly borne out by the "Caracas Declaration" of the heads of government of eight Latin American countries, which was published last month. It resolutely denounces the U.S. aggression against Grenada and imperialist interference in Central America. The dynamics of events in many of the region's countries show quite clearly the growth of the people's struggle for democracy and independence.

A powerful people's movement led to a constitutionally-elected civilian government coming to power in Argentina after a long period of military rule. The new Argentine leadership intends to pursue a sovereign and independent policy. Thus, in one of his first interviews, given to the magazine DER SPIEGEL, Argentine President Raul Alfonsin pointed out the main causes of the economic crisis that has afflicted the country. First, he stressed, there is the pursuit of the U.S.-elaborated monetarist model of development, which has led to the plundering of Argentina -- there has been an outflow of \$39 billion to the United States. Second, there is the discriminatory U.S. policy toward Argentine goods on the U.S. markets and world markets.

President Alfonsin has repeatedly stated his government's intention to expand relations with the USSR, irrespective of sanctions and reprisals from the White House. We have accumulated good experience in trade partnership; relations are evidently going to develop in the sphere of science, technology, and culture too.

Important events are currently taking place in Brazil. Things are also moving toward a handover of power from the military to a constitutional government in the next few years. For instance, the recent state gubernatorial elections demonstrated the growing popularity of democratic and anti-imperialist forces. A very extensive movement of solidarity with the people of Nicaragua currently exists in Brazil, and this is now extremely important for consolidating the efforts of all Latin American democrats.

The victory of Jaime Lusinchí, the Democratic Action Party candidate, in the Venezuelan general election also shows that the Venezuelan people intend to seek a way out of the severe economic crisis that has afflicted the country along the paths of anti-imperialist struggle and independent development.

So Washington's imperialist strategy is not a total success story. For example, the United States wanted to believe that it had rid itself of progressive governments in Chile forever. At any rate their henchmen Pinochet has registered himself as president through 1990. But what is currently happening in the country obviously proves that the dictator is unlikely to hang on to the throne until the end of the year. The upsurge of the people's struggle has reached such a scale and maturity that Chileans are now unafraid of any mass repression and are openly demanding the tyrant's resignation. The United States is now searching for a more acceptable figure to replace Pinochet. It seems, however, that even this is useless -- the Chilean people are into the home stretch of their struggle for democracy and a worthwhile life and there is no doubting their victory.

What is currently happening in the Latin American countries clearly reflects the quintessence of our time. Mankind's movement forward along the path of progress invariably means a movement toward independence and peace and against imperialism and the forces of aggression. This natural law is manifested throughout the world, including on the "seething continent."

NICARAGUA ANNOUNCES ELECTIONS FOR 4 NOV

LD160951 Moscow TASS in English 0840 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Text] Managua March 16 TASS -- The Nicaraguan Council of State has passed an election law, under which the Nicaraguans will elect on November 4 this year, for a term of six years, a president, vice-president and a national assembly of the republic. The new bodies of executive and legislative power will take office on January 10, 1985. The election law gives the right to vote to Nicaraguan citizens beginning from the age of 16. Servicemen of the Sandinist People's Army will also take part in voting.

The adoption of the law by the country's State Council has been another expression of the determination of the Sandinist National-Liberation Front and the entire people of Nicaragua to hold their first-ever truly free, democratic elections, despite a toughening of aggressive actions by the United States and counter-revolution.

The Reagan administration, which advertises the so-called elections designed to "legalize" the power of the pro-American regime in El Salvador, is having recourse to acts of international terrorism in an attempt to frustrate the election process in Nicaragua. On the days when the Council of State was in session the republic was repeatedly attacked by CIA's mercenaries.

DISMISSAL OF U.S. AMBASSADOR IN NICARAGUA NOTED

LD171039 Moscow TASS in English 1027 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Text] Washington March 17 TASS -- The White House has announced the dismissal of U.S. Ambassador to Nicaragua Anthony Quainton. According to the ASSOCIATED PRESS agency, he did not suit the administration by being too soft on the Sandinista government. Political commentators believe that this step attests to Washington's plans to mount pressure on Nicaragua and continue the "undeclared war" against that Central American republic.

SOVIET RED CROSS SENDS AID TO NICARAGUA

PM141029 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Mar 84 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Aid to Nicaragua"]

[Text] On 11 March the Union of Societies of the Red Cross and Red Crescent of the USSR and the Soviet Peace Fund sent to Managua on an Aeroflot flight a second consignment of medical supplies, bandages, and necessities for the population of the regions of Nicaragua that have suffered from the incursions by counterrevolutionary gangs.

U.S. 'DIRTY GAME' LINKS AID TO SOLVING NUNS CASE

LD151941 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1545 GMT 15 Mar 84

[From "The World Today" program presented by Igor Fesunenکو]

[Text] Under strong pressure from the White House, the Senate allocations committee has approved the granting to the Salvadoran regime of additional emergency military aid amounting to 93 million.

As a White House representative stated, President Reagan personally phoned a number of committee members to demand that they confirm these allocations. I would like to recall that a fierce -- I would even say frenzied -- struggle has been going on about this question over the past few weeks in the corridors of power in Washington. Quite recently, for example, Larry Speakes, the White House deputy press secretary, quite disappointingly -- in my opinion with a somewhat assumed, ostentatious disappointment -- complained to correspondents that in the 1984 financial year's budget, the allocations requested by the administration for military aid to El Salvador had been reduced. He also complained that the granting of about 30 percent of this sum depended on the outcome of the case of the four murdered American nuns. This is a reference to the not yet fully investigated murder by death squads of four U.S. nuns in December 1980 in El Salvador. You can see them on this photograph. The murderers have not yet been punished.

You know, to tell the truth, to me it seems monstrous to make this linkage, to make the granting of U.S. aid to the Salvadoran junta conditional on the investigation, on the course of the investigation of this murder of nuns. You see, the tragedy of three American women is being turned into a sort of small change: jail the murderers and we shall throw you another couple of dozen million dollars; if you do that, we shall retain that sum. I would call this an inhuman and dirty game which is, by the way, fully in accord with the moral aspect of those who are engaged in it.

And now, you see, the U.S. Congress Senate committee has given way to pressure from Reagan and decided to pour a further \$93 million to fuel the Salvadoran bonfire.

'SCANDAL' ERUPTS OVER U.S. FALKLANDS AID TO UK

LD152312 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1935 GMT 15 Mar 84

[From "The World Today" program presented by Igor Fesunenکو]

[Excerpts] For over a year now, but with particular persistence in the last 3 months, since the civilian government led by Raul Alfonsin took office in Argentina, Washington has been trying to improve its relations with that country, which were seriously damaged during the Anglo-Argentine armed conflict in 1982 over the Falkland/Malvinas Islands. But it looks as though these efforts will not be crowned with success for a long time to come.

Let me remind you that in that armed conflict, almost 2 years ago, the United States supported its NATO ally, Britain, and this evoked anger and indignation among Argentinians, and throughout Latin America, as the United States is linked with these countries, with Latin America, and with Argentina in particular, by the Inter-American Mutual Aid Treaty of 1947. But, with the Machiavellianism typical of U.S. foreign-policy philosophy, Washington not only left Argentina to the mercy of fate, but openly took London's side, and even supplied aid to Britain.

As I was in Argentina at the time of that conflict, in June 1983, I well remember the indignation, hatred even, evoked by this U.S. stance among all Argentinians, from the government to the man in the street, so to speak. The papers and magazines were absolutely full of anti-American commentaries, articles, and cartoons at that time. There were caricatures in the streets, in store windows, in newspaper kiosks.

The Argentinians did not then yet know the true scale, the real extent of the aid which the Pentagon was extending to the British expeditionary corps which had set sail for the Falklands, that disputed archipelago, as they call it in Britain. But since all secrets become public sooner or later, the reality of this compact between Washington and London has also surfaced recently, thanks to an article that has just appeared in Britain's THE ECONOMIST, adducing some facts and even figures which make a profound impression.

When Weinberger was asked about this report, he said: We gave the British a mass of material, but they paid for it. That is how harmoniously sentimental loyalty to the British ally combined with treachery to Argentina in this operation. And at the same time Washington's material interest was satisfied: They paid us, said Weinberger, and we did what we were asked to do.

It goes without saying that these sensational disclosures have literally shaken the Argentinians. CLARIN, for example, asserts that without U.S. aid Britain would have been unable to restore its colonial dominion over the archipelago. The disclosures by THE ECONOMIST, writes LA PRENSA, published in Buenos Aires, are a real scandal. These disclosures are the best reply to those who so insistently demand the normalization of Argentine-U.S. relations.

So there it is. History as a whole, and the history of international relations in particular, has always been a kind of fount of wisdom. The conflict over the archipelago in the South Atlantic showed the Argentinians and all of Latin America who their friends and who their enemies are.

TASKS, PROBLEMS OF PARTY LEADERSHIP REVIEWED

PM172029 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Mar 84 First Edition p 1

[Editorial: "The Style of Party Leadership"]

[Text] The more complex and the larger the scale of the tasks which the Soviet people resolve on the path of communist building, the greater the significance acquired by questions of improving the style and methods of party and state leadership, continuity and purposefulness in resolving key problems of the present and future, and emphasis on achieving high end results in all matters.

"It is necessary to know not only how to set correct targets, but to work tenaciously to achieve them by overcoming all difficulties," Comrade K.U. Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, has observed. "It is necessary to assess realistically what has been achieved without either exaggerating or underestimating it. Only this approach will protect us from errors in policy and from the temptation of wishful thinking and will enable us to see clearly, as Lenin put it, 'what precisely we have "finished" and what we have not finished!'"

It is precisely this approach which characterized last year's CPSU Central Committee resolutions on the report by the Saratov Obkom and on the work of the Moldavian Communist Party Central Committee and others. The decisions of the CPSU Central Committee February (1984) Plenum, which presented Communists and all Soviet people with a combative program for successful implementation of the tasks set by the 26th CPSU Congress, also vividly exemplified this approach.

The results of the CPSU Central Committee plenum are currently being widely discussed at party committee plenums and aktiv meetings, in primary party and also trade union, Komsomol, and other public organizations, and at sessions of ministry and department collegiums. The fulfillment of state plans, the development of socialist competition, and measures to intensify production, introduce scientific and technical achievements, and enhance organization, order, and discipline are at the focus of attention. Specific targets are being set and the ways and means of achieving them are being checked. And it is important that everything envisaged should be reliably reinforced by efficient organizational and political work.

Today, more than ever before, the success of party leadership of society depends on consistent observance of the Leninist principle of the unity of ideological, organizational, and economic work. A close link with the masses, reliance on their initiative and advanced experience, wide publicity and self-criticism excluding any displays of window dressing and formalism, strict executive discipline, and a high sense of responsibility to the party and the people for work assigned are the innate features of a work style which allows all the people's creative forces to be brought into action and the resolution of the complex tasks set by the times to be ensured.

We do not lack experience of such organization of the matter. Convincing evidence of this has been shown time and time again by the high results in economic performance achieved by those republics, krays, oblasts, cities, rayons, enterprises, and farms which were winners in the 1983 all-union socialist competition. The work of many sectors, labor collectives, and their party organizations at the beginning of this year too is distinguished by precise organization, initiative, responsibility, and professionalism.

At the same time, instances are being cited during discussion at party committee plenums and meetings of Communists which indicate that quite considerable reserves and potential for increasing the efficiency of the economy and work quality are still being unused through omissions and errors in the style and methods of leadership.

Insufficient demarcation of party committees' functions from the tasks of state and economic organs, which frequently leads to duplication in their work and diverts workers' time and efforts from resolving purely production tasks, is one of the most acutely felt "sensitive spots."

Nothing but harm to the matter can be caused by some party committees' passion for creating numerous staffs and commissions on various questions of a production nature and by a bureaucratic style of leadership which merely amounts to adopting numerous resolutions without appropriate verification of their execution and completion. The following case, for example, was cited at the North Osetian Oblast party conference. In 2 years the Alagirskiy Raykom adopted more than 250 diverse resolutions on problems of ideological work, strengthening discipline, and increasing the productivity of public-sector livestock raising but in none of these questions did it lead to any improvement.

It is clear that these kinds of phenomena cannot be tolerated. Party committees, as was pointed out at the recent meeting between Comrade K.U. Chernenko and CPSU Central Committee apparatus workers, must proceed from the premise that they are political organs and organize the fulfillment of tasks not apart from the economic and soviet organs but through them. The practice of supplanting economic leaders discourages cadres. Moreover, it contains the danger of weakening the party committee's role as the organ of political leadership. It must be remembered in all circumstances that for party committees to concern themselves with the economy means above all concerning themselves with people.

And this, naturally, requires a constant increase in the standard of work with cadres. It is essential to teach workers the Leninist style in a persistent and consistent way and to establish it in all matters. It is necessary to take especial care in creating a cadre reserve and to provide assistance in the work of the large body of leaders who have recently been elected to party committees or who head soviet and economic organs.

The 4th year of the 5-year plan is advancing confidently across the country. Soviet people are living and working in the atmosphere of political enthusiasm evoked by the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee February plenum and the USSR Supreme Soviet elections. There is no doubt that further improvement in the style and methods of the work of party, soviet, and economic organs both centrally and locally will ensure a new, powerful acceleration in the development of our motherland's national economy and the successful implementation of the 26th CPSU Congress' directives.

IMPORTANCE OF ENHANCING PRODUCTION DISCIPLINE

PM150852 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 Feb 84 First Edition p 1

[Editorial: "Strengthening Discipline and Order"]

[Text] In implementing the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress and the economic and social tasks of the 11th 5-Year Plan, our party attaches paramount importance to enhancing discipline and organization in all spheres of society's life. This work is multifaceted. It requires a consideration of the material conditions and level of consciousness of the broad masses, the improvement of the means used in struggling for order and organization, and the search for new, more effective forms of this struggle.

"The question of organization and order," Comrade K.U. Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, noted at the Central Committee February (1984), Extraordinary Plenum, "is for us a key, principled question. There can be no two opinions on that score. Any disorderliness or irresponsibility not only result in material losses for society. They also cause grave social and moral damage.

We Communists understand this well, and millions of Soviet people understand it. And it is perfectly natural that the measures taken by the party to raise labor, production, planning, and state discipline and to strengthen socialist legality have met with truly nationwide approval."

The party, trade union, and economic organs have recently been enriched with new experience in leading the labor collectives. Better use has begun to be made of the advantages and potential of the socialist system. The collectives have acquired extensive rights, enshrined in legislation, which must be used more widely in practice.

Persistent efforts and purposeful work in this direction are having a beneficial influence on the acceleration of the pace at which the economy is developing and are helping to create a favorable climate in the collectives. Efficiency and the yield from the production potential have increased at many enterprises. Leading national economy sectors overfulfilled the plan targets for labor productivity growth this January. This was achieved primarily thanks to the reduction of losses of work time and the strengthening of discipline.

The team form of organizing and remunerating labor has become an important means of developing people's creative activeness and enhancing their awareness and discipline. Rich experience has been accumulated at the enterprises of Moscow, Dnepropetrovsk, Leningrad, Sverdlovsk, Kaluga, and other industrial centers in the country. As a rule in team working on a single contract, an atmosphere of mutual exactingness and responsibility for the matter in hand takes shape, which makes it possible to work more productively and to observe labor and manufacturing discipline more precisely.

"Today the worker is required to fulfill his obligations particularly strictly and conscientiously," V. Yelyshev, foreman at the Chelyabinskiy Traktorny Zavod production association, writes to the editorial office. "That is how our integral process assembly team operates. The workers count every working minute. But sometimes the ball bearings delivered to us by the Volga No 15 State Ball Bearing Plant are late in arriving for assembly. In January the Chelyabinskiy Traktorny Zavod production line was brought to a standstill for 7 hours for this reason. The Ministry of the Automotive Industry must investigate the reasons for this stoppage and take strict measures both with regard to specific teams at the plant and the director, V. Desyatov, who is to blame for the fact that the work rhythm has been disrupted at our plant."

Such instances are still frequently encountered. We must not forget that discipline and order in production depend on many factors, particularly on precisely organized supplies, and the prompt fulfillment of plans for contract deliveries. However, this approach to matters has not become the rule everywhere. The enterprises of the industrial rubber industry are failing to fulfill their delivery obligations. Because of the shortage of very simple components costing just a few kopeks and because of their poor quality, the production lines of the Volga Truck Plant Association and other consumers of this output have been in a frenzied state for many years now. In this case we must evidently speak of the grave responsibility of those who are responsible for the state of affairs in this subsector.

The CPSU Central Committee February (1984) Extraordinary Plenum raised the question of new, higher demands on the observance of state discipline. It is essential to make better use of all forms and methods of monitoring which have given a good account of themselves in practice. But for monitoring to be effective, its efficiency, like economic activity, must be assessed by end results -- the eradication of shortcomings and the improvement of work. Here strict demands must be combined with the skilled organization of specific aid to collectives. There is a wide field of activity here for the party committees and soviet standing commissions.

Under present conditions, the party teaches us, it is impossible to raise the economy to a qualitatively new level without creating the necessary social and ideological prerequisites. The local party and soviet organs and trade union and Komsomol organizations of enterprises and associations must, in accordance with the party's instructions, step up work on the formation of conscious labor discipline. Special attention must be paid to the organic combination of moral and material labor incentives. The social justice which lie at our system's foundation must be unconditionally observed in daily matters, be it a case of wages or a bonus, thanks for labor, or a worker's portrait on the board of honor...

Order and discipline in the collective depend largely on the leader, on his personal attitude toward matters, his exactingness toward himself and others. The state of labor discipline and painstaking work to strengthen it, like concern for the fulfillment of plans, must lie at the basis of the assessment of the results of the work team leader, foreman, shop chief, or enterprise director. The ministry and department party committees are called on to oppose more resolutely unjustified amendments to plans, to be concerned to improve supplies, and to struggle against the narrow departmental solution of questions.

Conscious discipline and a high degree of personal responsibility on the part of every worker for the execution of the obligations imposed on him are the guarantee of the successful fulfillment of the plans and pledges for 1984 and the 11th 5-Year Plan as a whole.

VOROTNIKOV CHAIRS RSFSR GOVERNMENT MEETING

PM152025 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 15 Mar 84 Morning Edition p 2

[Unnamed own correspondent report: "At the RSFSR Council of Ministers"]

[Text] At its 13 March session the RSFSR Council of Ministers Presidium examined a number of current questions linked with environment protection and the implementation of the Food Program.

A report was heard from Ye.D. Pokhitaylo, chairman of Omsk Oblispolkom, on the work of the oblast's soviet and economic organs in fulfilling the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers resolution "On Urgent Measures to Prevent Atmospheric and Water Pollution in Omsk City" and the RSFSR Council of Ministers resolution on this question. A report was delivered by Yu.P. Kudyashev, chairman of the Udmurt ASSR Council of Ministers, on the work of the autonomous republic's soviet and agricultural organs in fulfilling CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers resolutions and RSFSR Council of Ministers resolutions on transforming the RSFSR's Nonchernozem Zone. V.V. Plisov, chairman of Krasnoyarsk Krayispolkom, reported on the work of the kray's soviet and agricultural organs to conduct livestock wintering in an organized manner and prepare kolkhozes and sovkhozes for the 1984 spring sowing.

The presidium adopted corresponding resolutions on the questions that were examined.

The session was chaired by V.I. Vorotnikov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers.

ALL-UNION CONFERENCE DISCUSSES PUBLIC OPINION

PM171443 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Mar 84 First Edition p 2

[TASS report: "Seminar Held"]

[Text] An all-union conference-seminar on the problems of the study, shaping, and consideration of public opinion in the activity of party committees was held 13-14 March at the CPSU Central Committee Academy of Social Sciences.

Leading party workers of a number of union republic Communist Party central committees, kraykoms, and obkoms, and Soviet sociologists engaged in the study of public opinion participated in the conference-seminar's work.

STATE, PARTY GREET ATOMIC POWER STATION WORKERS

PM121044 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 Mar 84 First Edition p 1

[CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers greetings under the heading "On the Labor Victory! -- To Construction Workers, Installation Workers, Operators, Planners, Machine Builders, and all Participants in the Building of the Fourth Power Unit of the V.I. Lenin Chernobyl AES"]

[Text] Dear Comrades! It was with great satisfaction that the report of your remarkable achievements, the putting into operation of the fourth power unit, with a capacity of 1 million kw, at the Chernobyl Lenin atomic power station, was received at the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers. This big victory is a weighty contribution to the implementation of the program for accelerated development of atomic power engineering mapped out by the 26th Party Congress.

The Chernobyl AES is today one of the biggest atomic power stations in the Soviet Union. Since the first unit was commissioned, it has already produced more than 82 billion kwh of electricity. The work that you have done to reduce the normative periods for construction of power stations and for mastering design capacities of power units, and on integrated resolving of the tasks of industrial and civil construction, deserves high assessment. The successes that have been achieved are the result of the close joint work and creative cooperation of the collectives taking part in building the power station in the joint search for and use of ways and reserves for enhancing the efficiency of capital investments, the result of mass socialist competition, and of a great deal of organizational and political-educational work by party, trade union and Komsomol organizations.

The CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers express the firm conviction that you will work with even greater energy and persistence on the rapid mastering of the technical and economic indices of the new power unit, and on putting the Chernobyl AES into operation at full design capacity ahead of schedule. Dear comrades, we wish you fresh great successes in implementing the tasks envisaged by the USSR's power engineering program, in implementing the decisions of the December 1983 and February 1984 CPSU Central Committee Plenums, and wish you good health and personal happiness.

The CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Council of Ministers

PUBLICATION OF NEW ISSUE OF KOMMUNIST REPORTED

PM161332 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Mar 84 First Edition p 3

[Unattributed report: "Latest of Journal"]

[Text] The fourth issue of the CPSU Central Committee's theoretical and political journal KOMMUNIST has been published.

It contains Comrade K.U. Chernenko's speech at the meeting with voters on 2 March and the document "At the CPSU Central Committee."

The section entitled "The Cause of All the Party" carries an article entitled "Think and Work in the New Way" by K. Rutenberg, first secretary of the Talsinskiy Latvian Communist Party Raykom, and an article entitled "For Class Vigilance" by Ye. Sokolov, first secretary of the Brest Belorussian Communist Party Obkom.

The article "Key Reserves of National Economic Management" by academician D. Gvishiani, deputy chairman of the USSR State Committee for Science and Technology, the article "On Combining Sectoral and Territorial Management" by V. Ikonnikov and S. Krylov, and the article "The Shortandinskiy Bridgehead" by A. Dikhtyar, are published under the rubric "At the Forefront of the 11th 5-Year Plan."

The section "On the Future of Our Schools" contains an article entitled "The Way To Unite General Educational and Vocational Education" by Yu. Borisov, the article "School Reform: Some Questions of Pedagogical Theory" by Ye. Gassel, N. Pakhomov, and V. Severtsev, and a review of readers' letters entitled "AMatter Affecting the Interests of All the People."

The journal contains an article entitled "He Was a Man!..." (On the 50th anniversary of the day of Yu. A. Gagarin's birth) by USSR Honored Test Pilot M. Gally, an article entitled "The World Revolutionary Process: Topical Problems" by K.H. Schroeder, member of the Presidium and of the Secretariat of the German Communist Party Board, and an article entitled "The Structural Crisis of the Capitalist Economy" by S. Menshikov, as well as critical and bibliographical materials.

TRAPEZNIKOV FUNERAL, BURIAL REPORTED

PM161705 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Mar 84 First Edition p 6

[TASS report: "Last Journey"]

[Text] Moscow bade its last farewell 15 March to Sergey Pavlovich Trapeznikov, member of the CPSU Central Committee, personal pensioner of union status, and corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences.

The hall where the coffin containing the deceased's body lay was funereally arrayed. The hall was filled with numerous wreaths, one of which was from the CPSU Central Committee. The awards earned by S.P. Trapeznikov for his services to the motherland were displayed on scarlet cushions.

The funeral vigil was mounted by M.V. Zimyanin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; G.I. Marchuk, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the State Committee for Science and Technology; A.P. Aleksandrov, president of the USSR Academy of Sciences; leaders of a number of ministries and departments; and representatives of party and social organizations.

A funeral meeting was held at the Novodevichiy Cemetery, where S.P. Trapeznikov was buried.

Obituary Signatories

PM151040 [Editorial Report] Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 March 1984 First Edition carries on page 3 an obituary of S.P. Trapeznikov which has the following signatories: "K.U. Chernenko, M.S. Gorbachev, M.V. Zimyanin, Ye.K. Ligachev, V.A. Medvedev, B.I. Stukalin, V.F. Shauro, N.Ye. Kruchina, G.I. Marchuk, A.P. Aleksandrov, Ye.Z. Razumov, S.G. Shcherbakov, V.G. Vladimirov, G.S. Strizhov, P.P. Shirinskiy, P.A. Smolskiy, V.P. Yelyutin, M.A. Prokofyev, N.A. Petrovichev, S.P. Burenkov, V.A. Kotelnikov, P.N. Fedoseyev, G.K. Skryabin, R.G. Yanovski, Ye.M. Kozhevnikov, A.G. Yegorov, S.L. Tikhvinskiy, I.I. Minis, and O.S. Krivosheina."

KARELIAN SUPREME SOVIET PRESIDUM STATESMAN DIES

PM151505 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 12 Mar 84 Morning Edition p 2

[Unattributed announcement: "From the RSFSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the RSFSR Council of Ministers."]

[Text] The RSFSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the RSFSR Council of Ministers announce with deep sorrow that Ivan Pavlovich Mankin, deputy chairman of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and chairman of the Karelian ASSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, died 9 March 1984 at the age of 60, following a serious illness. They express condolences to the deceased's family and friends.

RSFSR Supreme Soviet Presidium

RSFSR Council of Ministers

MOLNIYA 1 COMMUNICATIONS SATELLITE LAUNCHED

LD171037 Moscow TASS in English 1031 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Text] Moscow March 17 TASS -- The Soviet Union today launched a communications satellite, Molniya 1. The satellite's purpose is to ensure the operation of long-distance telephone and telegraph radio communication and broadcasting of Soviet central television programmes.

The satellite has been placed in a high elliptic orbit with the apogee of 40,579 kilometres in the northern hemisphere and the perigee of 646 kilometres in the southern hemisphere. The period of revolution is 12 hours 15 minutes, the inclination of the orbit is 52.9 degrees.

Ekran Satellite Launched

LD171128 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1030 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Text] Moscow, 17 Mar (TASS) -- The latest "Ekran" television broadcasting satellite was launched in the USSR Friday. It was brought into a circular orbit close to the stationary one with the following initial parameters:

Distance from the Earth's surface: 35,530 kilometres

Period of revolution round the Earth: 23 hours 43 minutes

Inclination of orbit: 0.1 degrees

The equipment is functioning normally.

COSMONAUTS 'CORRECT' VISUAL OBSERVATION PLAN

LD152001 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1730 GMT 15 Mar 84

[Text] For 5 weeks Leonid Kizim, Vladimir Solovyev, and Oleg Atkov have been working abroad the piloted complex. They have been carrying out medical research. The Salyut 7 - Soyuz T10 - Progress 19 orbit hardly passes the territory of our country in the daytime now, so the plan of visual and instrumental observations and photography has been substantially corrected. Basically, this work is being conducted over the marine and oceanic regions of the planet. According to reports from the crew and telemetric data, the flight is proceeding normally.

REACTOR PLANT UNDER CONSTRUCTION IN SARATOV

LD182223 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1530 GMT 18 Mar 84

[From the Vremya newscast]

[Summary] V. Ryazanov reports from the Balakova AES site in Saratov Oblast. The reactor section is now being built and is over 50 meters in height. [video shows circular structure surrounded by rectangular one, both still in process of construction] The general building work here is going ahead simultaneously with work on the reactor plant. Assembly is on the basis of fitting the largest units possible together in the final construction. These weigh tens of hundreds of tons. This can only be done using a special giant crane. [shots of parts of large structure, apparently a gantry crane]

ARMY PREPARES FOR KOMSOMOL CONFERENCE

PM161508 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 15 Mar 84 Second Edition p 2

[Unattributed report: "At the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate. Worthy Greeting for the All-Army Conference of Komsomol Organization Secretaries"]

[Excerpts] The Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate has examined the course of preparations for the All-Army Conference of Komsomol Organization Secretaries. Briefings were delivered by Colonel Generals P.A. Gorchakov, M.D. Popkov, and S.A. Bobylev, Colonel General of Aviation; L.L. Batekhin, Admiral P.N. Medvedev, members of military councils and chiefs of the political directorates of branches of the Armed Forces Colonel General B.I. Bychenko and Lieutenant Generals S.M. Smirnov and A.F. Stolyarov, chiefs of the political organs of categories of troops; and other comrades.

The speakers stressed that the forthcoming all-army conference this May is an event of great political importance.

Preparations for the all-army conference are generating a lofty patriotic and business-like mood in young servicemen. In every branch of the USSR Armed Forces there are many instances of Komsomol members' initiative and creative enthusiasm.

At the same time it was noted that the time spent preparing for the All-Army Conference of Komsomol Organization Secretaries must be used more effectively in order to further improve Komsomol work in the districts, groups of troops, and fleets. Its influence must be increased on the personnel's combat and political training, on the cohesion of military collectives, and on the creation in them of an atmosphere of friendship, troop comradeship, and intolerance toward the slightest manifestations of indiscipline. Political organs and party organizations are called on to investigate more actively the content of Komsomol work and to be exacting toward Communists elected to leading Komsomol organs. More attention should be devoted to Komsomol cadres. Working with young people and heading the Komsomol organization of a subunit, unit, or ship is both a great honor and an immense responsibility. A very great deal depends on the competence, initiative, high ideological and moral qualities, professionalism, and human charm of Komsomol workers. Above all the militancy of the Komsomol organization, which is called on to be a reliable assistant to the commander and the party organization and to exert substantial influence on servicemen's training and service and on the moral climate in the collective.

Guided by the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress and subsequent party Central Committee plenums and the indications and recommendations of Comrade K.U. Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, political organs and party organizations are called on to persistently develop the activeness of the Army's and Navy Komsomol in work on the communist education of servicemen. It is necessary to strive for every Komsomol member and every young serviceman to set a personal example in combat and political training and in fulfilling the demands of the oath and the statutes, and to set the tone in socialist competition. It is necessary to give more help to Komsomol committees and bureaus in asserting the Leninist style at work, eradicating the ostentatious tone of reports and speeches, and striving for unity of word and deed. The role and prestige of Komsomol organizations must be enhanced and care taken to swell their ranks.

The Komsomol organizations of subunits where there are no party organizations deserve particular attention. It is necessary to augment the strength of their influence on servicemen's life, combat training, and service without permitting petty tutelage guardianship, to guide useful initiatives into the proper channel, and to promote the growth of their combativeness.

It is 10 years since the last All-Army Conference of Komsomol Organization Secretaries. Today there are many important new questions on the agenda. Rich experience has been amassed of work on the communist education of the Army and Navy young people. In the preparation period it is important to consider this experience in depth. Everything that is valuable in militant and truly enterprising Komsomol collectives must be espoused. This will make it possible to raise Komsomol work in units, on ships, and in USSR Defense Ministry military training establishments and institutions to a qualitatively new level.

Questions of preparations for the all-army conference must be the constant focus of attention of the leading political command staff. It is necessary to strive persistently to ensure that the preparations for the conference promote the further enhancement of Komsomol organizations' ideological education work and ensure the personal example of Komsomol members and young servicemen in combat and political training, discipline, and competition and their mobilization for the successful fulfillment of the tasks set the Soviet Armed Forces by the 26th CPSU Congress.

The gathering was addressed by Admiral A.I. Sorokin, first deputy chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate.

The results of the discussion were summed up by Army General A.A. Yepishev, chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate.

MILITARY JUDGES' SESSION ON JUDICIAL ACTIVITY

PM141220 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 7 Mar 84 Second Edition p 2

[Colonel of Justice S. Morozov report: "Conference of Military Judges"]

[Text] A conference of chairmen of military tribunals of military districts, groups of forces, and fleets has been held. The reports delivered by Lieutenant General of Justice S.S. Maksimov, chief of the Military Tribunals Directorate, and Lieutenant General of Justice G.I. Bushuyev, chairman of the USSR Supreme Court Military Collegium, analyzed the activity of the military-judicial organs in the light of the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress and subsequent Central Committee plenums and the speech of Comrade K.U. Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, at the meeting with voters of Moscow's Kuybyshevskiy Electoral Okrug.

The conference participants were addressed by V.I. Terebilov, USSR justice minister, and Admiral A.I. Sorokin, first deputy chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate. Taking part in the conference's work were Ye.A. Smolentsev, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Court, Colonel General of Justice A.G. Gornyy, chief military prosecutor, and responsible workers of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Defense Ministry, and other ministries and departments.